A CORNER OF KENT.

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J.R. Planché, del.

View of Ash Street.

W.G. Smith, Lith.

A CORNER OF KENT;

OR,

SOME ACCOUNT OF THE PARISH OF

ASH-NEXT-SANDWICH,

ITS HISTORICAL SITES AND EXISTING ANTIQUITIES.

BY J. R. PLANCHÉ,

ROUGE CROIX PURSUIVANT.

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Seal of Robert de Septvans, temp. King John.

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TO

THE MOST REVEREND

CHARLES THOMAS LONGLEY, D.D.

ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY,

AND PRIMATE OF ALL ENGLAND,

These Contributions towards the History of a Parish,

THE PRINCIPAL PORTION OF WHICH, FROM THE TIME OF THE CONQUEST,

FORMED FOR SEVERAL CENTURIES PART OF THE POSSESSIONS

OF THE SEE OF CANTERBURY,

ARE

(With Permission)

RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED BY

HIS GRACE'S

MOST OBEDIENT AND VERY FAITHFUL SERVANT,

J. R. PLANCHÉ.

PREFACE.

I AM not the first person by many who has found, long before he finished his work, that he was writing a book he had no idea of writing when he began it. Having a "vested interest" in the parish of Ash, in the shape of a daughter married to the incumbent of it, and mother of sundry urchins born in it, I one day, in an unguarded moment, took it in my head that a sort of digest of the account of the said parish, which I had read in the third volume of Mr. Hasted's "History of Kent," brought down to the present day, with a few notes respecting costume and heraldry as illustrated by the fine series of monumental effigies and brasses in the church, a pretty woodcut or two, and possibly an attractive plate by way of frontispiece, might be acceptable to the inhabitants and useful to the visitors of this out-of-the-way corner of the county; and, as a shilling hand-book, if it did not quite repay the cost of publication, would not inflict any very ruinous pecuniary penalty on the compiler. In this complacent state of mind I commenced my self-imposed task, as an agreeable occupation of my leisure hours during the following three or four months, and I am

now about to terminate it with a mortifying sense of its many deficiencies, after it has reached the extent of a goodly-sized octavo volume, and absorbed every moment of the time I could give to it, not for three months, but as many years. Whether I have made a mistake or not remains to be seen. If the public —I mean that small portion of it who take an interest in local and family history—do not lay down the book till they have finished it, they will not be surprised that I was unable sooner to lay down my pen. I do it now with regret, as I feel there are many important genealogical questions which have still to be satisfactorily answered; but I have at least pointed them out for the examination of abler antiquaries with more leisure at their disposal, and shall of course bear them myself in mind while occupied in similar researches professionally. It but remains for me now to perform the agreeable duty of returning my sincere thanks to the kind friends by whom I have been materially assisted in the progress of my work. To Mrs. Streatfield, of Chart's Edge, and family, for the liberality with which they threw open the doors of that cabinet containing the countless treasures collected with such care and at such expense by the indefatigable and enthusiastic antiquary, the late Mr. Thomas Streatfield, for his contemplated History of Kent, of which, alas! the prospectus alone has been given to the public; a specimen which only deepens our regret at the non-fulfilment of its splendid promise.

To Mr. Thomas Godfrey Faussett, the descendant of another most able and zealous Kentish antiquary, for the inspection of the MS. church notes of his great grandfather, the Rev. Bryan Faussett, of Heppington, whose extensive collection of Anglo-Saxon antiquities, chiefly discovered by him in the parish of Ash, now forms part of the museum of Mr. Meyer, of Liverpool.

My obligations to my friend and co-secretary of the British Archæological Association, Mr. Edward Roberts, I have acknowledged in the chapter devoted specially to the church, respecting the architectural details of which he has furnished me with much valuable information; but I cannot thank him too often, and this catalogue of benefactors would not be complete without his name.

To another architect and archæologist whose friendship I have still longer enjoyed, and whose reputation is too well and too widely established to require a word beyond the mention of his name, Mr. Arthur Ashpitel, I am indebted for several important suggestions, for the drawings of the recently-discovered stone coffin and the plan of the church.

While my brother officers at the College of Arms have one and all cordially encouraged and assisted me in my researches, the congenial taste and great experience of William Courthope, Somerset-Herald and Registrar, have proved invaluable to me. His intimate knowledge, not only of all the stores of curious unedited documents in the College itself, but

of our national records generally, guided me in the pursuit of information, and his own elaborate MS. pedigrees and genealogical collections illustrated many important points misrepresented or totally overlooked by previous writers of great authority.

Lastly, but not less gratefully, I have to return my thanks to Miss Adelaide Godfrey, of Brooke House, Ash, for the spirited little drawings, the originals of the woodcuts which adorn the heads of the four first chapters; and to the Hon. George C. O. Bridgeman, for the reduction of the map of the parish.

J. R. PLANCHÉ.

College of Arms,
July 20th, 1864.

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ERRATA.

Page 73, line 25, *for* "Nicholas Toke, of Goddington, Esq.," *read* "the Reverend Nicholas Toke of Godington."

Page 78, line 22, *for* "the forty-fifth," *read* "the fifty-fifth."

Page 88, line 9, *for* "Masters and Wardens," *read* "Masters and Fellows."

DESCRIPTION OF ILLUSTRATIONS,

AND DIRECTIONS TO BINDER.

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INTRODUCTION.

THE parish of Ash-next-Sandwich, notwithstanding that it can boast but of one village of any importance, that to which it gives, or from which it takes its name,—has probably as great claims upon the respect and interest of Englishmen as any other in the kingdom. Within its boundaries the Gauls found their most commodious haven; the Romans erected their most famous fortalice; the pagan Jute established his dominion; the holy Augustine planted the cross. Many of the most celebrated names in the roll of our Norman ancestors are connected with its manorial records, and the greatest sovereigns of this country for many centuries made its now almost deserted road the highway to conquest, returned by it in triumph, or displayed on it the pageantry of a peaceful progress.

These distinctions have frequently been claimed for the county in which it is situate; but, while we freely accord to Kent all the honour that is fairly its due, as "the grand scene of the earliest recorded of the most important events in the annals of our country," we cannot allow the fact to be forgotten that it was

within the boundaries of the present parish of Ash that the greater number actually occurred.

The stranger who may now ascend the venerable tower of its church and gaze on the wide and pleasant panorama presented to him from its summit, will see no remarkable object to excite his curiosity. The long grey crumbling walls of Richborough may easily escape his notice, as his eye strays over them to the white cliffs of Ramsgate, and blue waters of Pegwell Bay, and then, following to the right the straight line of marsh, rests upon the red roofs and dusky towers of the little old-fashioned town of Sandwich.

No rock-throned Pharos tells from afar of Roman domination,—no frowning battlements of feudal power,—no ivy-mantled arch of monastic grandeur; —all appears modern, peaceful, pastoral, and unromantic. On the one hand, marsh and meadow dotted with sheep; on the other, a smiling valley, bounded by a range of low wood-crowned hills,—here and there a distant spire, a cluster of farm-buildings, a mill, or an oasthouse.

Yet those meadows have swarmed with Cæsarean soldiery; over what is now a marsh have sailed the Roman galleys and the Saxon keels. Those hills have witnessed the worship of Woden; amongst the trees of one of them nestles a village still bearing his name;—that mill marks the site of a vast pagan cemetery; those farms are the remains of manor-houses, whose knightly owners lent lustre to the roll of English chivalry. The sculptured effigies of some

yet moulder on their monuments in the chancel beneath.

Puffs of white smoke point out the progress of the up-train from Sandwich rattling over a railway which sweeps by the amphitheatre and round the castrum of Rutupis; an omnibus is rolling along the road by which Richard Cœur-de-Lion passed on foot to Canterbury, and Edward the Black Prince conducted a captive King of France to London.

A CORNER OF KENT.

CHAPTER I.

BEFORE THE CONQUEST.

"Aut vaga cum Thetis Rutupinaque litora fervent,
Unda Caledonios, fallit turbata Britannos."—LUCAN.

"So Northern Britons never hear the roar
Of seas that break on the far Cantian shore."—ROWE.

THE history of the parish of Ash may be said to commence with the above allusion by Lucan, in his "Pharsalia," lib. vi., to the Rutupine shore: the coast of Kent, or at least that corner of it north-east of Sandwich, having received that appellation apparently from the Portus Rutupensis, the name given by the Romans to the estuary which then separated the Isle of Thanet from the mainland.

At each end of this estuary was a fort which protected a haven, the one called Regulbium, now Reculver; and the other Rutupis or Rutupinum, now Richborough. Hence, it is presumed, the plural name Rutupiæ.* The etymology of this name is still a vexed question. Camden suggests its derivation from the British words *rhyd-tufeth, vadum sabulosum*, or sandy flats or fords.† Battely, from *rupes*, a rock; or from the *Ruteni*, a people of Gaul; and Malebranche, from *ruthen*, interpreted a "rotten shore." But Pliny speaks of a Portus Rutubis in Africa.‡ Ælian mentions a Sicilian city named Rutupi, and the river Raya, which falls into the Gulf of Genoa above Vintimillia, is in the ancient maps of Liguria set down as the Rutuba. Ordericus Vitalis also tells us of a powerful chief, called Rutubus, whose castle, on the banks of the Seine, was besieged and taken by Julius Cæsar, and named by him, after its former owner, Rutubi Portus. These facts disincline us, therefore, to be satisfied with any of the above suggestions. A writer of the Augustine age, whose works have perished, appears to have used the word *rutuba* to express turbulence, tumult, or disorder.

> "Ergo tum Romæ parce pureque prudenteis
> Vixere in patriâ, nunc sumus in *rutuba*."—VARRO.

And, as it has been already observed by Mr. Hasted,

* The name of it is variously spelt by different authors. We find "Rutupiæ urbem," "Portus Rutupensis," "Ritupias," and "Ritupis portum," "Ritupiæ statio," "Rhutubi," and "Ruthubi portum," &c.

† Mag. Brit.

‡ Nat. Hist. v. 15.

that in old glossaries, *rutubari* is interpreted "the raging of the sea," and *rutuba*, the "perturbation of the waters," we agree with him in believing that the stormy coast of Britain obtained from the Romans the appellation of the Rutupine shore in the sense of the ancient word which Nonius has preserved to us.* The calm and safe harbour, "stationem ex adverso tranquillam,"† offered to their fleets by the estuary, might still be called "Portum Rutupensem," and the city that rose beside it "Urbem Rutupiæ," or jointly, as by Orosius, "Rhutubi Portum *et* Civitatem." In the absence, however, of all conclusive evidence, we must leave our readers to make their own election between the Rhyd-tufeth of the Belgic Britons and the Rutubus of the Romans and Cisalpine Gauls, the two most probable conjectures. Under whatever name the locality might have been known to the original colonists, the transmutation to which all foreign words were subjected by the Romans has too effectually destroyed in this, as in so many instances, the hope of the etymologist.

The high ground upon which the ruins of the castrum or citadel of Rutupis still exist was at the time of its construction completely surrounded by water. Whether it has been originally the site of a

* "Rutuba, æ, f.—Rutubam Vett. turbationem appellat Non. ex Var. à Ruo, a tumult, trouble, or disorder."—(Littleton, Latin Dict. London, 1684.)

† Ammianus Marcellinus.

British fort cannot now be ascertained; but that the sea ran up to it, around it, and far past it, forming a secure haven for the peaceful merchant, or an inviting entrance to the hostile invader, is a recorded fact, which the features of the country at the present day sufficiently corroborate.

Mr. Hasted, writing at the close of the last century, says, "It is at this time cut off from Gurson (Guston) by a narrow slip of the marsh, across which even now in wet times the water flows in so much, that people passing along the road from Ash to Richborough are obliged to ford through it. It is an entire parcel of land by itself, of its own construction, being a mile and a quarter in length and three-quarters of a mile in the widest part."*

The military genius of the Romans was not slow to perceive the strategic importance of this point, or to exert its utmost skill in taking advantage of it. There does not appear any satisfactory authority for the exact date of the erection of the castrum. The Sandwich MS., printed by Mr. Boys,† professedly compiled from ancient records and chronicles, says, "The ancient castle of Rutupi, now Richborrow, was begun to be built by Vespatian, being the generall of the Romans in Brittaine, A.D. 55, and was perfected by Severus the emperor;" but as no authority is quoted for this assertion, we can do no more than

* Hist. of Kent, vol. iii. p. 686, note.

† Collections for the History of Sandwich.

admit the possibility of the circumstance.* By whoever built, it was in form nearly square, walled on three sides, but, like Caistor in Norfolk, and other similarly situated Roman fortresses, open on the fourth, which was nearest the water.† Of the north wall, according to the measurement of the most recent investigators of this ancient remain,‡ nearly 450 feet are still standing, and rather more than half that quantity of the south wall. The western wall has suffered the most injury, but when perfect, measured 460 feet.§ At the north-east corner are the ruins of a return wall, which seems to have run down under the cliff, or rather bank; and from observations made at the foot, there is reason for believing there was a landing-place on the beach, and that a sloping road behind the wall led up into the citadel. Round towers of solid masonry protected the angles of the castle, and the sides were strengthened by square towers, solid to the height of nearly eighty feet from the foundation, the walls themselves being

* Kilburne attributes its erection to the British chief popularly known as Arviragus, the opponent of Vespasian; but the work is undoubtedly Roman. The Britons may very possibly have fortified the hill after their own fashion; but no evidence remains of the fact.

† Writers unaware of this peculiarity have represented the fourth side as fallen.

‡ "Wanderings of an Antiquary," by Thomas Wright, F.S.A. "Antiquities of Richborough," by Charles Roach Smith, F.S.A.

§ Mr. Fussell in his "Journey round the Coast of Kent," gives the dimensions as existing as that time, as 500 feet on the north side, 540 on the south, and 484 on the west.

from twenty-five to thirty feet high, and twelve feet in thickness. A well-protected postern gateway exists on the north-east side, designated in one of the plates of Battely's "Antiquitates Rutupinæ" as the Decuman Gate, which latter, so called because it was wide enough to allow the passage of ten men abreast, is assumed by others to have been nearly in the middle of the western wall, but its precise position is no longer discernible.*

Within the area, and much nearer to the bank than to the western wall, is what appears to have been the foundation of some building, which, from its cruciform shape, is now popularly known by the name of St. Augustine's Cross. Camden, however, seems to imply that in his day this name was not given particularly to this object. He says, "Wherever *the streets* have run the corn grows thin, which the common people call St. Austin's Cross;" † but he is speaking of the fields whereon he supposes the city stood, and not of the area within the walls of the castrum. This is worthy of observation, as he does not mention "the cross" we are describing at all, though recent writers have from the above passage assumed that he has done so, and the inference therefore is, that it was not visible in Elizabeth's time, and that the appellation of "St.

* Dr. Battely has evidently founded his opinion on the description of Vitruvius, who, in speaking of the Decuman Gate, uses the words, "Egressus patet *non rectus sed obliquus*."—(Architect. l. 5.)

† Mag. Brit. page 298, edit. 1600.

Austin's Cross" has been transferred to it at a much later period. Somner, who appears to have written his "Treatise of the Roman Ports and Forts of Kent" (published in 1693) during the reign of Charles II., seems to be the first who mentions it. The words "*Wherever* (ubicunque) the streets have run" distinctly prove, that in Camden's day there were several crosses indicated by the partial growth of the corn, and not one large mass of solid work, an object too remarkable to have escaped observation.

In excavating round this structure, Mr. Boys discovered that it stood on a platform, five feet thick, 104 feet long, and nearly 145 feet wide, formed of a composition of boulders and coarse mortar, on which was laid a smooth floor of mortar six inches thick. The cross itself, measuring from north to south forty-two feet by thirty-four, and from east to west nearly thirty feet by eight, had been faced with square stones, some of which remained *in situ*.*

In 1822 a subterranean building was discovered beneath the platform, which was supposed to contain chambers used as store-rooms for the garrison, a granary or an arsenal; but no indications of any entrance could be traced, either at that time or as late as 1843, when the late Mr. Rolfe, of Sandwich, made a vigorous but unsuccessful attempt to penetrate the compact masonry.

Mr. Roach Smith, in his "Antiquities of Rich-

* Collections.

borough," says, "The popular notion that the cruciform foundation on the platform is the base of a cross need scarcely be refuted, and the opinion that it may have supported a pharos is equally untenable." We must beg, however, to differ with him on this latter point. The sandy nature of the soil would render exactly such a foundation imperatively necessary to the safety of a tower of the height and magnitude requisite for such a purpose, and the cruciform shape which the surface now presents might have arisen from lateral buttresses projecting from its base. That there was some such building we cannot doubt; and if not there, in what other part of the area would it be likely to have existed? This theory by no means prevents us from admitting the probability that vaults may yet be discovered beneath the platform. "That the subterranean building was constructed for some extraordinary and important purpose," observes Mr. Smith, "is obvious from the fact that nothing analogous to it has been discovered at any of the Roman stations in this country, or, as far as can be ascertained, on the Continent." It is surely as obvious that the peculiar nature of the soil required a foundation unlike any needed where the Pharos was built on a rock or other solid substratum. Is there any other instance in England or on the Continent of an important Roman fortress erected actually on a sand-bank?

On the highest part of the hill, about 460 yards from the south-west angle of the castrum, are the

remains of an amphitheatre, first noticed, it would appear, by the Rev. Mr. Gostling, in his "Walk about Canterbury,"* and which Dr. Stukely calls a "castrensian amphitheatre."

In 1849, Mr. Rolfe and Mr. Roach Smith ascertained this work to have been a regular elliptical building resembling in miniature the great amphitheatres of the Continent. Coins were found by them ranging from the reign of Domitian to that of Arcadius, who died A.D. 408, with a large number of small coins called *minimi*, which are believed to belong to the period when the Roman towns were left to their own government, so that this amphitheatre must have been in use down to the latest period of the Roman rule in Britain, if not for an age or two after their departure. We regret to add that agricultural interests have necessitated the filling up again of this little amphitheatre, the situation of which, so near to the old castle, rendered its preservation still more desir-

* "We visited these venerable ruins," says the Reverend traveller, "with a gentleman of Sandwich, who from the old castle conducted us to some banks hard by, which he called *the mounts;* where are found very plain remains of this work, an amphitheatre *not mentioned by any Kentish* writer that I know of, unless the little camp, as Dr. Harris calls it (p. 379 of his History), to the south-west of the castle be so, containing, as he guesses, not above an acre of ground, having a mount at each corner, though the form is oval or circular, and some remains of an entrance on each side. . . . . The sloping bank, lowered by long cultivation, measures in circumference about 220 yards, and its present height from the arena or centre of the excavation is in the different parts from seven to nearly twelve feet."

able. Such a circumstance could not have occurred in France or Germany. The two or three acres of land would have been purchased by Government and the amphitheatre, like that at Treves, been carefully preserved for the public.

No satisfactory conclusion has yet been come to respecting the site of the Roman town, or of the cemetery connected with it; but the former is supposed to have been situated on the sloping ground to the south and west of the citadel.* Ptolemy the geographer, who lived in the first half of the second century of the Christian era, names Rutupiæ as one of the three towns of the Cantii, the other two being Londinium (London) and Durovernum (Canterbury), while in the Itinerary of Antoninus the port or haven alone is mentioned, "Ad portum Ritupis."

We find, in the work attributed to Richard of Cirencester, the expression "Rhutupis Colonia;" and not only in his description of the ancient state of Britain does he place Rutupis among the nine colonial *cities*, but, under the head of Cantium, asserts that it became the *Metropolis of the Province*, that its haven was the rendezvous of the Roman fleet which commanded the North Sea, and that its *city* was of such celebrity that it gave the name of Rutupine to the neighbouring shore. Mr. Roach Smith demurs to this, and considers that Richard was led into this

* Camden.

mistake by Ptolemy and Orosius, and by the term *Coloniæ* applied to Rutupis in the Iter above mentioned. He observes that "we have no evidence in existing remains or in recorded discoveries to warrant our placing Rutupiæ in the category with Londinium, Camulodunum, and such-like places, which were clearly towns or cities of great extent, the limits of most of which may still be traced, often serving as the municipal boundary down to the present time."*

Without presuming to dispute the opinion of so competent an authority as Mr. Smith, or relying on the statements of Richard, who has been suspected of being no authority at all, we may, I think, suspend our judgment until further discoveries enable us to fix the site of the Roman city, which Twine places at Dover, and Boys is anxious to prove was at Canterbury!† It is possible remains may yet be found in the neighbourhood of the little hamlet of Richborough, as well as in the direction of Sandwich, tending to corroborate the assertion of Ptolemy, that it was one of the three cities of Kent, and originally, perhaps, the most important from situation, though ultimately outgrown and surpassed by Londinium and Durovernum, with which it is classed by him. It may not have been a *walled* town, the castrum and the sea being considered sufficient protection. Mr. Smith himself, in another

* Antiquities of Richborough. † Collections.

work,* admits that the whole neighbourhood, including Sandwich, is proved by sepulchral remains continually discovered to have been well populated in the time of the Romans, and, as one of the earliest settlements, it may have been less regular in plan, and consequently more extensive, than deliberately-constructed cities. What if it should have embraced the site of Sandwich itself? There are not wanting those who assert that Sandwich was actually the ancient city of Rutupiæ,† and it is so marked in some maps. The site of the Roman burial-place attached to it has also to be ascertained.‡ Mr. Boys states that in his time some urns were found in a sand-pit on the hill on the left hand of the road lead-

* Inventorium Sepulchrale, p. 19, note.

† Math. Westminster. Somner's Ports and Forts, pp. 3 to 7. *Vide* also Harris, Battely, and Plott.

‡ Hasted remarks: "There are two large mounts like tumuli on the sides of the road at a small distance westward from where the Canterbury Gate of the town of Sandwich lately stood, and there is another on the south side of the same road about a quarter of a mile westward from them: but without opening them it is impossible to ascertain for what purpose such as stood in the marshes and low grounds, as these three last do, were made."—(Vol. iii. p. 688, note.) There are several mounds in the marshes, which we believe to have been made in later times for the purpose of affording refuge to sheep and cattle when the marshes were flooded by high tides, or the prevalence of heavy rain. One of the largest tenants in this district, to whom we are indebted for this suggestion, assures us that he has levelled and examined some of them, and never found the slightest indication of their being sepulchral monuments. It is quite clear they could not have been of Roman construction, as the sea was at that period navigable over the spots on which they stand.

ing from the castle to the modern hamlet of Richborough;* and Mr. Smith observes that the situation is such as would be likely to have been chosen for this purpose.† Mr. Fausset and other antiquaries have imagined it to have been at Guilton, adjoining the village of Ash, where indications of Roman interments have been discovered amongst the Saxon graves; but these Mr. Smith considers to have belonged to the people of a *vicus* on the site of Ash or thereabouts.‡ It is nevertheless probable that the city may have extended in that direction very nearly as far as the village of Ash, and that such *vicus* was, in fact, a straggling suburb not altogether disconnected with the city, which evidently stretched away behind the castrum and the Portus Rutupis or actual harbour of Rutupiæ, and must have been limited to the highest ground in the parish, the rest being at that period undoubtedly covered by the sea at high tides, if not continually.

Suggesting, therefore, that Antoninus speaks of the road to the *Port*, and Ptolemy of the *City* itself, while Orosius mentions them jointly, just as writers of the present day might speak separately or jointly of the port and city of London; we will leave this point to be decided by future researches, and proceed to notice the few facts that have been recorded of the history of Richborough.

* Collections. † Antiquities of Richborough.
‡ Inventorium Sepulchrale.

As early as the second century of the Christian era, the delicious oysters conveyed to Rome from this coast were celebrated by Juvenal in his Fourth Satire:—

. . . . . "Rutupinove edita fundo
Ostrea." . . . . .

An immense quantity of oyster-shells has been discovered here amongst the Roman *débris* turned up at various periods, and particularly in the progress of the works for the Sandwich Railway, which runs immediately under the walls of the castrum.*

The Latin poet Ausonius, in the fourth century, makes several allusions to Rutupiæ. One of his uncles, Claudius Contentus, he tells us, was buried there;† and his brother-in-law, Flavius Sanctus, appears to have been governor or prefect of the Rutupine district, which enjoyed great tranquillity under his rule.‡

Ammianus Marcellinus records that Lupicinus,

* From the appellation of "Trutulensis," given by Tacitus to this port, it has been suggested that the trout for which the Stour is still famous were as celebrated in the time of the Romans.

† "Et patruos Elegeia meos reminiscere cantus
Contentum Tellus quem Rutupina tegit."—PARENTALIA.

‡ "Militiam nullo qui turbine sedulus egit
Præside lætatus quo Rutupinus ager."

Dr. Harris says there were in his time about a quarter of a mile westward from the castle two very large tumuli which he supposes to have belonged to the two persons above mentioned. This is of course a mere conjecture: but *vide* note ‡, *ante*, p. 12.

marshal of the army, landed in Rutupiæ, with a force of light-armed troops, sent by the Emperor Julian to repel the Picts and Scots; and in the time of Valentian and Valens, the arrival of Theodosius, father of the emperor of that name, on a similar expedition, is commemorated by the same historian.* At the beginning of the fifth century, we learn from the Notitia that the town was the head-quarters of the second legion, called Augusta, and sometimes Britannica.† Five or six facts in nearly as many hundred years! Such is the meagre amount of information to be depended upon, which has been handed down to us respecting Richborough during its occupation by the Romans. The rest is mere assertion or speculation, more or less probable. We may be justified in supposing that the highest ground in this district was, in the days of Julius Cæsar, covered with wood, principally elm and oak; and imagination may people the sandy shore of that sea which then flowed over the marshes, with painted Britons, shaking their bronze-headed spears in defiance of the veteran soldiers advancing against them, with the same confidence in their discipline and superior weapons which a regiment of the line would feel in making good its landing against a swarm of South-Sea islanders. For the claims of the beach between Deal and Dover to be considered as the locality wherein the Roman invader first set foot

* Books XX. and XXVII.

† "Prepontus Legionis secundæ Augustæ Rutupii."—(Cap. lii.)

are by no means undisputed. Nearly every possible spot between the North Foreland and Beachy Head has its enthusiastic advocate, and Richborough is not without its tradition and its theory; but while we are in utter ignorance of the many changes the coast has undergone since that period, it is next to impossible to draw any reliable inferences from Cæsar's description of it.

The frowning masses of masonry which have resisted the assaults of time, tempest, and man for eighteen centuries, are, after all, the great fact which is more valuable than a thousand theories. Whether a British fort, raised by a chief who has been called Arviragus, originally occupied the site of the castrum, may never be ascertainable; but that the walls still existing were reared by the masters of the ancient world; that through that nearly perfect postern gate Roman emperors have entered and departed; that the shouts of joyous multitudes mingled with reverential cries of "Ave, Cæsar Imperator!" have arisen from that amphitheatre over which the corn now waves or the plough now passes, is as well known to us as if it were recorded in the pages of Tacitus.

Vespasian may not have built the castle; but as an officer serving in the army of Aulus Plautus, he must have entered the natural harbour it afterwards commanded. Claudius came over to Britain to partake the triumph of his general, took Malden, in Essex, the Camulodunum of the Romans, and the

capital of Cunobellin, remained sixteen days in the island, and returned to Rome, leaving Plautus to govern Britain. Titus, the future conqueror of Jerusalem, came hither as military tribune under his father Vespasian. Agricola with, possibly, Tacitus in his train, for there are expressions in his graphic account of the expedition that would justify our believing he was an eye-witness of some of the events he records; Hadrian; Severus, who is presumed to have completed the defences of Richborough, and died at York; Constantius, who also expired in Britain; his son Constantine the Great, who was raised to the purple in this country; and Maximus, the competitor of Gratian, a Briton by birth, according to some historians, and who is stigmatized by Ausonius as "the Robber of Rutupis,"—must all have passed through the water-gate of Rutupium, the common port of communication with Gaul. One still greater than emperor, general, or historian, is presumed to have landed at Richborough. There is a vague tradition that Christianity was first preached in Britain by St. Paul, the Apostle of the Gentiles, and much learning has been wasted in vain attempts to establish the fact.* We must, however, be first satisfied that he, like those we have already named, actually *did* visit these shores, before we speculate on the place of his landing. Amongst the holy and canonized men who in these early ages must have

* Harris, Hist. Kent, p. 488.

seen Richborough in its glory, we may mention St. Germanus, Bishop of Auxerre, who twice encountered the perils of the ocean to combat the Pelagian heresy in Britain, narrowly escaping on his second voyage, in company with Lupus of Troyes, the fearful tempests raised, as the Venerable Bede assures us, "by the malevolence of demons, who were jealous that such men should be sent to bring back the Britons to the faith." *

With such materials for our fancy to work upon, we may stand upon that now deserted highland, and rebuild, in imagination, that celebrated fortress. We may still picture to ourselves "the Channel fleet" of that period at anchor in the placid waters which then reflected its proud battlements, or seeking, by the light of its lofty Pharos, a refuge in that "tranquil haven" from the dark and turbulent ocean without. Turning to the north, we may descry the Belgic Briton, in his wicker coracle, paddling over to the Isle of Thanet, divided from the mainland by the sea, at that point nearly a mile in breadth, and studded with trading vessels from Gaul, Greece, or Phœnicia. Or, looking westward, see the colonial city covering the slope of the hill; its busy streets, of which the tracks were visible in the reign of Elizabeth; the forum thronged by its mixed population, foreign merchants, curious travellers, idle mariners, and all the motley crowd that congregate in a thriving com-

* Eccles. Hist. chap. xviii.

mercial seaport town. The temple of Æsculapius,* the palace of the Prefect Sanctus, the villa of the opulent Contentus, of which, perhaps, that broken tile at our feet may be the last remaining relic. The reader may smile; but there is no exaggeration in the picture. There can be no doubt that such were the general features of the scene which once presented itself to the sight on this spot, and the probability is that our slight sketch is rather under than over-coloured. Even after the final departure of the Romans, Rutupis retained its importance for centuries, both as a mart and a haven. Vessels from the west found a safer and shorter passage to the mouth of the Thames by passing through the estuary, and the large quantities of *minimi* to which we have already alluded, as well as of Saxon coins which have been discovered here, from those of the earliest description called *Sceattas*, down to some of the ninth century, prove the continuous occupation of the site to that period.

The first event of consequence after the withdrawal of the Roman legions, was the arrival of the Jutes, traditionally under Hengist. "The Saxon fleets," remarks Mr. Thomas Wright, "had long infested the eastern shore of Britain with their incursions, and in the long series of usurpations of the imperial title by

* A large brass image of a cock, the bird sacred to that deity, and supposed to have surmounted a temple dedicated to him, was exhumed here, according to a tradition at Sandwich recorded by Dr. Battely.

governors of the island during the latter period of the Roman sway, the Saxon and Roman fleets had frequently ridden side by side in friendly alliance. In fact it is probable that the Romano-British navy consisted, in a greater degree than we would suppose, of Saxon mariners. It is not unlikely they had formed settlements on the eastern coast, called after them the Littus Saxonicum, or Saxon shore, long before the Roman legions had relinquished the island. Richborough, the chief station of the Roman navy, would be the last post deserted; and a comparison of various traditions on the subject with a few facts that are known, would lead us to suppose that these Saxon settlers came rather as allies of the Romans than under any other character, and that they established themselves in Thanet under the protection of Regulbium and Rutupiæ rather than in fear of those strong fortresses. As the support of the Roman power was eventually withdrawn, the supremacy in the province of Britain was left to be contended for in a confused struggle between the new Saxon settlers, the old and more civilized Romano-British population, and the barbarian Picts and Scots of the North."* In the year 449 according to the Saxon Chronicle—but it were safer to say about the middle of the fifth century—two Jutish chieftains, familiar to us under the typical names of Horsa and Hengist, with a small band of chosen followers on board of three vessels, entered

* Wanderings of an Antiquary, pp. 71, 72.

the port of Rutupis and landed, according to the best authorities, at a spot subsequently called Wypped's-floet, now Ebbsfleet, in the Isle of Thanet. Bede says they were the sons of Victgilsus, whose father was Victa, son of Woden or Odin, a deified chief of the Scandinavians.* The Saxon Chronicle interposes a fourth generation;† but it is needless for us to enter into that controversy, or even to decide between those who assert that these victors were wandering exiles, and others who contend that they were invited protectors. We purposely refrain from even briefly noticing the stories of Nennius, Gildas, and Geoffrey of Monmouth. The romance of "Vortigern and Rowena" was appropriately dramatized by the impostor Ireland. Sir Francis Palgrave observes: "These details have been told so often that they have acquired a prescriptive right to credit; but I believe they bear no nearer relation to the real history of Anglo-Saxon England than the story of Æneas as related by Virgil does to the real history of the foundation of Rome."‡ Whatever contests occurred between the Britons and Saxons at this period, it is clear that up to the present time neither the places, dates, or names of the leaders have been accurately recorded. All that we know for certain is that a Saxon or Jutish sovereignty was established during the latter half of the fifth century

* Eccles. Hist. cap. xv.

† "Sons of Wihtgils; Wihtgils son of Witta, Witta of Wecta, Wecta of Woden."—(Saxon Chronicle, *sub anno.*)

‡ History of England, Anglo-Saxon Period, p. 36.

in this part of Kent, either by the chieftain called Hengist himself, or by a near kinsman, some say his son; and that Richborough was one of the earliest royal Saxon residences, its Roman name of Rutupis being transmuted by its new masters into Reptacæaster,* and occasionally Ricsburg, or the King's castle,† from whence its modern appellation.

Whatever may have been the real name of Hengist, that of his successor was undoubtedly Eric; but, like his relatives, he also had a typical cognomen, the derivation of which is uncertain, but possibly of more consequence to our present inquiry than has been imagined. He was surnamed Esc, or Oisc, which has been latinized Escus, the interpretation of which must depend upon whether the name was given him by his own people or by the Britons. *Esc* and *Oisc* are both of them forms of the old British word for water, which may be found in all its varieties, as *asc*, *isc*, *osc*, *usc*, &c.; from whence the Axe, the Exe, the Ouse, and other names of rivers in this country, and, what is of more interest to us, the Eshe, as that part of the Stour was called in the neighbourhood of Ashford, anciently Eshetisford, or the ford of the Eshe; the Stour itself meaning the same thing, being only a corruption of *es dür*, which also signifies in Celtic "the water." But, by one of those singular coincidences which so distract and mislead the etymo-

* "Ruthubi portum, qui portus a gente Anglorum nunc corrupta Reptacester vocatus."—(Bede, Eccles. Hist. lib. i. cap. i.)

† Alured of Beverley.

logist, the word Æsc in Anglo-Saxon signifies an ash-tree. Sir Francis Palgrave, one of our most intelligent Anglo-Saxon historians, says, "From the spear which he wielded, or the vessel which bore him over the waves, he was surnamed *Æsc* or *Ash-tree;* and Æscingas, or Sons of the Ash-tree, did the Kings of Kent, his descendants, call themselves so long as their dynasty endured."* It would also seem probable, as has been observed by another erudite and elegant writer, that Ash was the general name for a hero, in allusion to the primeval man of Teutonic mythology, who was believed to have sprung from the sacred ash-tree.† Without dwelling further on this subject, or insisting in any way on the value of the suggestion, we will simply call upon our readers to remark that no question has hitherto arisen as to the cause of the name of Ash (Ece or Esce, as it appears in the earliest documents) being given to this extensive parish,‡ and leave them to form their own

* Hist. Anglo-Saxon, p. 37. *Vide* also Bede, Eccles. Hist. lib. ii. cap. v. who calls him *Orric*, "surnamed *Oisc*, from whom the kings of Kent are wont to be called *Oiscings*." The descendants of Offa or Uffa, King of Mercia, were in like manner termed Offingæ or Uffings.

† Historical Memorials of Canterbury, by Canon Stanley, p. 15, note. Grimm's Deutsche Myth. i. 324, 530, 617.

‡ Philipot, in his "Villare Cantium," p. 395, briefly says, "Ash, from that kind of tree;" a mere suggestion applying to any place of that name (and there are several in Kent alone), and of the same value as his derivation of Ashford, viz.: "Orignally Eshetisford, implying the great plenty of Ashen trees growing about the forde" (p. 394); forgetting that *Eshe* in this instance is clearly the old name of the

opinion as to the probability of its derivation either from the water which in the days of the Britons covered so large a portion of it, or from the warlike Saxon, who, as Sir Francis Palgrave remarks, appears to have been the first real king of this part of the country, as "he and not his father Hengist was honoured as founder of the Kentish dynasty."

According to the Saxon Chronicle, Hengist and his son Æsc fought against the Britons several battles in various parts of Kent: one at Aylesford in 455, where Horsa was killed; another, if not two, the following year at Crayford; and in 465 a decisive one near Ebbsfleet, and there slew twelve British chieftains, losing one of their own thanes, whose name was Wypped; from which circumstance the place is suppose to have received its name of Wypped's floet. In 488, according to the same authority, Æsc succeeded to the kingdom.

The reign of Eric or Esc, and of his successors Octa and Hermenric are described as "inactive," and we may therefore consider them peaceful. The battles of Cerdic in Sussex and the landing of Ida in Northumbria do not appear to have disturbed the tranquillity of Kent; and for about eighty or ninety years Richborough and its vicinity, it may fairly be presumed, enjoyed prosperity and increased its population. The extent of the sepulchral remains at

river. As regards our parish of Ash-next-Sandwich, it is remarkable that the whole district is nearly destitute of ash, and is not traditionally even celebrated for the growth of it.

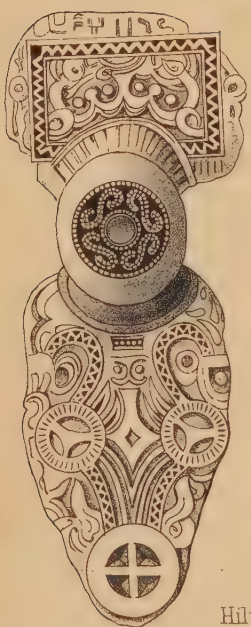


Fig. 1
Fibula of Silver gilt
and Bronze

Fig. 2.
Hilt of Anglo Saxon Broad Sword.

Fig. 3
Buckle of Girdle or Sword Be
Silver gilt with gold borders

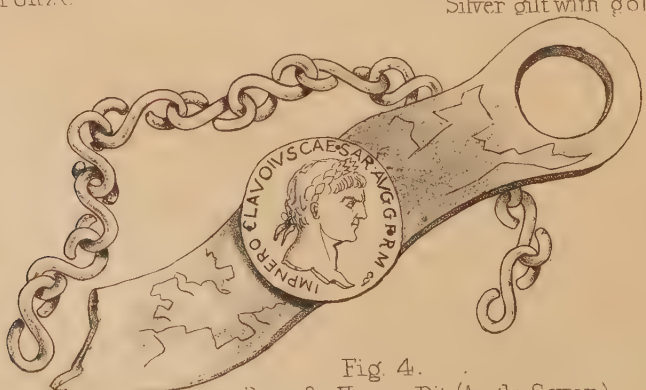


Fig. 4.
Part of a Horses Bit (Anglo Saxon)
with a Roman Coin attached to it.

F. Waller Lith. 18, Hatton Garden.

W. G. Smith. del.

Anglo Saxon Antiquities discovered at Guilton

Guilton, and the character of the ornaments and weapons discovered, prove that a large and wealthy community lived and died in this neighbourhood previous to the conversion of the Kentish Jutes to Christianity.

The name of Guilton or Guiltontown, as it is indifferently called from its earlier appellation Guildenton, is provocative of a little inquiry, connected as it is with this celebrated pagan Saxon cemetery, in which it is most probable King Esc and his immediate successors were royally interred; more particularly as neither Lambarde nor Philipot, Harris nor Hasted have indulged in the slightest speculation as to its origin. The unfortunate silence of Anglo-Saxon annals and charters is still more to be deplored, as we have no more ancient form of the name to assist our investigation than one which occurs in a will of the fifteenth century, where it is spelt Gildenston. In another, a century later, it is spelt Gildestowne; but the arbitrary character of the orthography of the Middle Ages must never be lost sight of in such researches.

Gill, in Anglo-Saxon, signifies a small stream, or rivulet; and as that which is called Wingham Brook runs through the meadows below Guilton, it might fairly be held to signify "the town on the brook;" but taking into consideration the important evidence which the excavations in this locality have brought to light, we are inclined to believe that it indicates the existence here of some particular place of worship

—some peculiar object either of Celtic or Teutonic adoration. *Gyld*, or *Gylt*, signifies, in one sense of the Anglo-Saxon, idol, or altar, and *giltodan* is to worship. It is true that the latter is deducible from the custom of offering money, *gelt*, at the altar, and is equivalent to payment; but that interpretation by no means weakens our argument; it rather strengthens it. The guilds of the Anglo-Saxons derived their appellation from the same source,* being originally convivial and social clubs or confederations, established to meet the expenses of penal mulcts and other pecuniary liabilities. In process of time, from general associations connected, after the conversion of the Saxons to Christianity, with religious establishments and observances, they became purely secular fraternities of particular craftsmen or dealers, known as "merchants' guilds," and protected by special charters of incorporation. Guildenton, or Gildestowne, may therefore be fairly interpreted either as the circle, enclosure, or town of worship or offering, or of the altar or idol, or as the town of the guild, or place where the community paid those offerings or contributions which defrayed, amongst other expenses, those of *burial and funeral ceremony*.†

* The payments or subscriptions to them in the earliest stage appear to have been in beer or mead, honey or malt, and not in coin; *geld* must therefore in this instance be taken in its wider sense of offering or tribute.—(*Vide* Thrupp's "Anglo-Saxon Home," 8vo. 1862, p. 160.)

† "One of the first occupations which the Guilds added to that of conviviality, was the superintendence of the burial of members. They

It was not till some time after this opinion had been entertained, that the writer was informed there had actually existed, from time immemorial, a local tradition, which appears to have been thought unworthy of record by Kentish topographers; viz., that on this precise spot stood an idol of solid gold, three feet in height, and that it still lay buried beneath one of the tumuli.

So strong is that belief at the present day, that on applying recently for permission to dig on some land at Guilton, adjoining that portion which had been previously excavated, it was granted with the distinct stipulation, that if the golden idol should be discovered, it should be held as the property of the owners of the estate.

Although local traditions are not to be entirely depended upon, as they have frequently their origin in the attempts of imaginative but unlearned persons to account for objects and circumstances which they do not understand, they are still deserving our respectful attention, as there is generally some modicum of truth to be extracted from them. Witness the legend of the British chief whose ghost, in golden armour, was said to haunt the tumulus

bound themselves to recover the body of every fellow guildsman who died far a-field, to form a procession for bringing it home, and to wake and bury it with musical honours. The assistance of the clergy was necessary on these occasions, and consequently the payment of soul-shot and a certain sum for masses, were among the earliest recognized charges on the corporate funds."—(Thrupp, *ut supra*, p. 161.)

under which he was buried, at Mold, in Flintshire, and out of which tumulus the excavators for the railway between Chester and Bangor dug what they at first believed to be an old brass fender, but which proved to be an ancient British corslet of pure gold. The greater portion of it is now to be seen in what is called the "Gold Room," at the British Museum.

We are not sanguine enough to expect a similar confirmation of the tradition of Guiltontown by the exhumation of a golden idol; but the tradition itself is singularly in accordance with the suggested etymology of Guildenton or Gildestown.

Be this, however, as it may, we are fully justified in concluding that in the sixth century the highlands in this parish had been considerably cleared of wood, and were well covered with the habitations of a mixed people, Romano-British and Anglo-Saxon; a friendly fusion of races, enjoying a community of interests, and if not adoring the same divinities, undoubtedly buried in the same graves.

It was at this period and during the reign of Ethelbert, the great-grandson of Eric or Esc, that Augustine and his companions arrived in the port of Richborough. The date is generally conceded to be 597. The Venerable Bede merely states that he disembarked in the Isle of Thanet; but Thorne, a monk of Canterbury, says, "in insula Thanet, in loco qui dicitur Ratesburgh," *i. e.* Richborough; and Leland tells us that Richborough was at that time considered

to be a portion of Thanet. The holy missionary, on leaving the ship, trod, we are told, on a stone, which retained the print of his foot as though it had been clay. This stone was preserved in a chapel dedicated to Augustine after his canonization, and yearly, on the anniversary of its deposit, crowds of people flocked thither to pray for and receive health. This statement, though of no historical worth, being written in the fourteenth century, is of value, says Mr. Smith, in reference to the antiquity of the chapel mentioned by Leland (of which we shall speak anon), while the general belief in the sanctity of the place and its associations, the periodical visits paid by the sick and the devout to the chapel of St. Augustine and to the holy stone, if they are not received as proofs of his landing at Richborough, may, at all events, be admitted as a tradition founded on a general knowledge that the Rutupine coast, and particularly Richborough itself, were in the sixth century, and later still, the principal points of debarcation from Gaul.*

The majority of the most respectable authorities concur in fixing upon Ebbsfleet in Thanet as the spot on which Augustine landed, and we have no wish to claim for Richborough more than is fairly its due. It was undoubtedly into the haven it protected that the Christian missionaries guided their barque, and although it is most probable that they might first set foot on English soil on the opposite side of the harbour,

* Antiquities of Richborough, pp. 160, 161.

it was no doubt in the royal residences of Richborough, Reculver, and Canterbury that their labours were prosecuted; and in the "Sandwich Manuscripts," printed by Mr. Boys in his Collections, a compilation of the sixteenth century from ancient chronicles and records, we find an account which we are much inclined to think approaches the truth as nearly as possible:—

"Upon the east part of Kent lyeth the Isle of Thanet, where Augustine and his fellows landed, being in number forty persons, as it is reported, who, by his interpreter sent to King Ethelbert, gave the King to understand that he, with his company, was come from Rome to bring unto him and his people the glad tidings of the Gospell, the way unto eternal life and blisse to all them that believe the same; which thing the King heareing, came shortly after *into his pallace or castle of Rupticester, or Richborrow*, situate nigh the old city of Stonehore, and *the King sitting under the cliff or rock whereon the castle is built*, commanded Augustine with his followers to be brought before him."

This graphic and interesting description is in perfect harmony with Bede's statement that the King "had taken precautions that they should not come to him in any house, lest, according to an ancient superstition, if they practised any magical arts, they might impose on him, and so get the better of him;" and his assertion, that some days after their arrival "the King came into the island," is not invalidated, if we

are to credit those who tell us that Richborough was then considered to be a portion of Thanet.

That the sovereign of Kent should be seated on the sea-shore, under the shadow of his own castle, and command the attendance of these mysterious strangers, is much more probable than that he should have crossed over to the Isle of Thanet for the purpose of a first interview.

The Queen of Ethelbert was a Frankish princess, named Bertha, sister of Charibert, King of Paris. Bertha had embraced the Christian faith previous to her marriage, and had been accompanied to England by Luithard, Bishop of Soissons, who died in Kent and was buried at Canterbury. Bertha is naturally supposed to have influenced her royal husband in Augustine's favour. "In the north side of the castel," writes Leland, "ys a hedde in the walle, now sore defaced with wether; they cawle it Quene Bertha hedde." A piece of stone or marble, now worn completely smooth, is still to be seen in the north wall near the postern-gate of Richborough; but whether of Roman or Saxon introduction it would be difficult now to determine.

Eadbald, the son and successor of Ethelbert, A.D. 616, restored the Saxon paganism in Kent, and drove out the Christian ecclesiastics; but Laurentius, the successor of Augustine, appeared before Eadbald, bleeding from severe stripes, and audaciously declared

* *Vide* pp. 28, 29, *ante.*

that St. Peter had inflicted them on him during the night, because he was about to forsake his flock, and had commanded him to go to the King and make known the true faith to him. The ignorant and superstitious Saxon, terrified at the idea that the next visit of St. Peter might be to him, became a penitent convert, recalled the exiled clergy, and eventually died in the odour of sanctity.

Ercombert, his youngest son, who succeeded him, was, we are told, a zealous Christian, and ordered the heathen temples throughout his dominions to be razed to the ground, and the idols to be broken in pieces, lest they should hereafter prove a snare to the people. If an idol or Saxon temple of any description ever existed at Guilton, its destruction may therefore be fixed at this date. The fluctuations between Christianity and Paganism, which no doubt took place amongst the people as well as in their princes, are curiously illustrated by the contents of the Guilton sepulchres.

The peace and prosperity of this part of the island were now rapidly departing. Intestine divisions encouraged foreign aggression, and towards the close of the seventh century, Cadwalla, King of the West Saxons, in revenge for the death of his brother, Mul, Mol, or Mollo, who, after overrunning and plundering the country, had been burnt alive in a farm-house by the exasperated inhabitants,* entered Kent at the

* Saxon Chron. *sub anno* 687; Henry Huntingdon, lib. iv.; and William of Malmsbury, lib. i. cap. i.

head of a formidable army, and wasting it from end to end with fire and sword, reduced it to such a state that it never recovered its importance during its existence as a separate kingdom, which terminated in 823 with the death of Baldred, when it was annexed by the victorious Egbert to the rest of his dominions, and became part of the kingdom of England.

It was now, however, to suffer from a new scourge. As early as 787, we learn from the Saxon Chronicle that the Danes had made their appearance on the English coast. In 832 they landed on the Isle of Sheppy, plundered it, and returned unmolested to their ships. Six years afterwards they again landed in Kent, and extended their ravages to Canterbury, Rochester, and even London itself. In 851, after being defeated at sea, off Sandwich, by King Ethelstan, who took nine of their ships, they landed in the Island of Thanet, and wintered there, probably held in check by the still formidable fortress of Richborough. Alured of Beverley, under this date, informs us that Alcher, the Ealderman, with the people of Canterbury, fell on the Danes, encumbered with booty, and routed them at this place, then called *Richberga*.

Undismayed by this reverse, they landed at Sandwich in the following spring, and pillaged it; and repeatedly, during the tenth and the beginning of the eleventh century, these ferocious Northmen repeated their fearful visitations, and laid waste the neighbouring country with fire and sword. That the whole of this parish was more than once involved in

this destruction there can be no doubt. In the Sandwich MSS. we read: "The city of Rutupi, with the castle now called Richborrow Castle, was utterly destroyed by fire and sword. Such was the rage of King Sweyne and his Danes in the year of grace 990." We doubt the accuracy of the date. The invasion by Sweyne and Olave is recounted by the Saxon Chronicle in 993 and 994, in which latter year, it is quaintly recorded, "they wrought the utmost evil that ever any army could do, by burning and plundering and by man-slaying, both by the sea-coast and among the East Saxons, and *in the land of Kent*, and in Sussex and Hampshire." There is no particular mention of Richborough; but as they do not appear to have held it at any period, they most likely did their utmost to ruin it; and as it had ceased for some time to be a royal residence, it may not have been thought necessary to repair the damages inflicted, and we have no evidence of its having ever been a place of strength or consideration after that date. The injury to its harbour by the increase of the sand, and the consequent transfer of its commercial and military importance to the adjacent port of Sandwich, which is first heard of in the seventh century, contributed to its decay, and at the period of its history at which we have now arrived, it had been completely superseded by Sandwich, described, in the reign of Canute as "the most famous of all the ports of England."*

* Encom. Emmæ.

As early as the time of Bede, who wrote at the commencement of the eighth century, we find the noble estuary had subsided into "the river Wantsum, about three furlongs over, and fordable in two places.*" An old map in Lewis's "Thanet" illustrates this description. Before the Norman invasion, Richborough had dwindled down to an insignificant hamlet, and its castle was crumbling away beneath the hand of time and the depredations of man. The extinction of paganism had written Ichabod on the glory of Guiltontown, and the high road or street between Wingham and Sandwich, running through what is now the village of Ash, was the only important feature of the parish.

Important it must have been, as the direct line of communication by land between the capital of Kent and the principal port on its south coast. Here, if anywhere within the present parochial boundaries, would the Saxon inhabitants have been most likely to congregate around a Christian church (occupying, perhaps, the site of the present), having been itself erected on the ruins of a Roman temple, which had replaced a Druidical altar. That such was the ordinary course throughout the country there is ample evidence; and without assuming it as a fact, we may believe that in all probability Ash was not an exception to the rule.

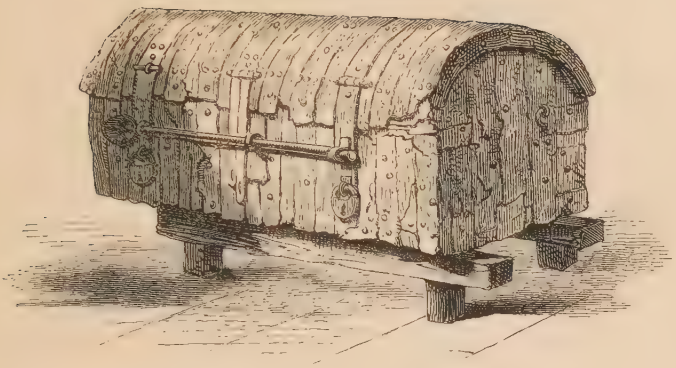
As during the Roman occupation the history of

* Eccles. Hist. cap. xxv.

this corner of Kent is that of Richborough, so under the sway of the Saxons (at least after their conversion to Christianity) it merges into that of Sandwich; and throughout the first half of the eleventh century we have continual mention of the plundering, burning, and ravaging to which the whole neighbourhood was subjected.

The last previous to the great Norman invasion appears to have been in 1048, when, according to the Saxon Chronicle, "Sandwich and the Isle of Wight were ravaged, and the chief men that were there slain." At this period the powerful Godwin was Earl of Kent, and during his subsequent struggle with Edward the Confessor, the fleets of the King and of his turbulent subject alternately entered the port and threaded the diminishing channel of the Wantsum; and in 1052 Godwin and his son Harold sailed through it to the mouth of the Thames, on their hostile expedition to London.

It is only in the latter days of Edward the Confessor that we discover the name of a solitary landholder in some part of this devastated district, when a few acres were possessed by a person named Bernholt, at a place called Ece, in the hundred of Eastry, and which Mr. Hasted takes to be Ash-next-Sandwich, with what probability we shall inquire in the next chapter.



Coffer of the 15th Century in the Vestry of St. Nicholas Church, Ash.

CHAPTER II.

DESCENT OF THE MANORS.

WITH the reign of William the Conqueror, commences that valuable series of official documents by which, with the exception of some fifty or sixty years, we are enabled to trace pretty clearly the descent of property in this country from the close of the 11th century to the present day, and illustrate by legal evidence the genealogies of its principal families.

It is in the great Survey of England, known as the "Domesday Book," made by order of the king, A.D. 1082—1086, that we find mention of a place called *Ece*, in *Estrei* hundred, which, after the Conquest, formed part of the enormous possessions of William's half-brother Odo, Bishop of Baieux and Earl of Kent, and wherein a yoke of land was held under him by one Osbert Fitz-Letard. That on it were three

villains (husbandmen, be it understood); that in King Edward's time, when it was held by a Saxon named Bernholt, it was worth 12*s.* annually, afterwards only 6*s.*, and at the period of the survey had risen in value to 16*s.**

According to the same document, this Osbert, or Osbern Fitz-Letard, was a very considerable landholder in this neighbourhood under Bishop Odo and other lords;† but of his parentage or descendants we know nothing. The name of Letardus occurs as that of an undertenant in Wiltshire; but whether the Osbert of Ash were his son or not, we are without means of ascertaining. There was also a Letard, Rector of Northfleet, who died in 1199, who might have been a collateral descendant of our Osbert; but we have not been able to trace any connection.

Mr. Hasted also quotes an entry in Domesday, by which it appears that one Turstin held two yokes in Ece of the bishop; but as that Ece is said to have been in Summerden (Smerden) hundred, and the former in Estrei (Eastry) hundred, it is clear they are two different places; and indeed it might be

* The jugum, or yoke of land, is estimated by Mr. Morgan (England under the Norman Invasion, p. 39) at half a ploughland, or carucate, which varied according to the soil; being as much as a plough could till in a year. The yoke has been calculated at forty-eight acres, set by the perch of sixteen feet; but cannot be exactly determined. See notes *, pp. 39, 40.

† "In Estrei Hund. Osb̄ filii Letard tē de Eps Hama." He also held Bedesham, now Beacham, in Wingham hundred, under which, in Domesday, he is called both Osbert and Osbern.

questioned whether either of them was the Ash next Sandwich, in the hundred of Wingham.

Of Ash as a parish we shall speak hereafter. It is only from the descent of the manors it contained that we can learn much of its early history. These amounted to twelve; namely, Overland, Goldston, Molland, Checquer, Chilton, Weddington, Levericks, Goshall, Hill's Court, Twitham Hills, Barton, and Fleet.

We shall commence with that of

FLEET,

as in it, or attached to it, were the hamlet and castle of Richborough; and in following the descent of the manor, we shall continue and complete the history of that famous fortress. Fleet, from the Anglo-Saxon *fleot*, a running water,—flood, is a district in the north-east part of the parish, and was anciently held of the Archbishop of Canterbury, as of his manor of Wingham; accordingly it is entered under the general title of the Archbishop's lands in the survey of Domesday as follows:—"Of this manor (*i.e.* Wingham) William de Arcis holds 1 suling* in Fletes, and there he has in demesne 1 carucate and 4 Villeins, and 1 Knight with 1 caru-

* Suling, swolling, or swilling, is a word common to Kent, from the Anglo-Saxon *sul*, a plough. So in a charter of King Offa we find "aliquam partem terræ trium aratrorum quam Cantianæ Anglicè dicunt 'three sulinge.'"—(Somner's Gavelkind, p. 58; Kenet's Glossary, under *Selio.*) In Dorsetshire a plough is still called a zull. According to some authorities, a yoke of land was the fourth of a

cate,* and one fishery with a saltpit of 30 pence; the whole is worth forty shillings." The Archbishop of Canterbury at this period was the celebrated Lanfranc, who had acquired the see on the disgrace of Stigand, A.D. 1070. On founding the priory of St. Gregory in 1084, Lanfranc gave that establishment the tithe of the Manor of Fleet; and this gift was confirmed by Archbishop Hubert in the reign of Richard I. The manor itself was granted by Lanfranc "to one Osborne,† of whom," says Hasted, "I find no further mention, *nor of this place, till Henry III.'s reign.*" Recent researches will enable us, however, to supply some curious information on the latter point.

The person called William de Arcis in Domesday, who held under Archbishop Lanfranc the aforesaid portion of the manor of Fleet, was William d'Arques, supposed to be a son of Godfrey or Geoffrey Fitz-Goscelin, Viscomte d'Arques, a bourg and viscomté in the Pays de Caux.‡ Much confusion has arisen

suling, which, by the computation given above (note *, p. 38), would make a suling about 192 acres.

* A carucate is a plough-land containing two yokes, and therefore half a suling, or ninety-six acres, according to the above calculation. This seems borne out by the context, as William de Arcis is said to hold *one* suling, and to have therein in demesne *two* carucates; viz., one carucate with four villeins, and one knight with one carucate.

† Dugdale, Mon. Ang., vol. ii. p. 373: "Quod feodum dedimus Osberno."

‡ Such is Mr. Stapleton's view of the case. (*Vide* his elaborate paper in the Archæologia, vol. xxxi.) The authors of the "Recherches

respecting him by the capricious spelling of the name Arcis and Arsic, neither of which truly represents the Norman title, and occasion it to be confounded with Arsick, the cognomen of an entirely different family. William d'Arques, by his wife Beatrice, left, according to some writers, two daughters: 1st, Matilda, married to William the Chamberlain, de Tancarville; and 2nd, Emma, who married first Nigel de Muneville, and secondly Manasses, Comte de Guisnes. This Emma, it is quite clear, had a daughter by each of her husbands, the descent from whom we shall often have occasion to refer to. William d'Arques was Lord of Folkestone, and that barony passed with Maud, daughter of Emma, by her first husband, Nigel de Muneville, to Ruallon d'Avranches.

Of this great family, from whom descended, by female heirs, nearly all the large estates in this part of the country to the families of Crevecœur, Criol, and Sandwich, the most imperfect and inaccurate pedigrees have hitherto been published. Considerable light is thrown upon it and its early connections by the recent publication of two very valuable original documents by the Kentish Archæological Society; the first being specially interesting to us, as it shows the descent of this very property in Fleet, which we have seen was vested in William d'Arques at the time

sur le Domesday" consider William d'Arques to be a collateral of the Viscomte. For our opinion the reader is referred to Chapter V. of this volume, which we have specially devoted to all vexed questions, genealogical or heraldic.

of the great survey, and, consequently, fills up the gap which Hasted describes as existing between that period and the reign of Henry III.

It is a legal agreement, called "a Final Concord," of the eighth year of the reign of Richard I., A.D. 1197, between Elias de Beauchamp and Constance de Bolbec, his wife, plaintiffs, on the one part, and Ruellinus de Abrincis (Avranches) * tenant, on the other, concerning half a knight's fee, with its appurtenances, at Fleet. The above-named persons agree that a moiety of the aforesaid knight's fee, with the lordship, shall remain in the hands of Elias and Constance his wife, and their heirs; "to wit, a

* The Ruellinus de Abrincis named in this document has never appeared in any pedigree of the family of D'Avranches. From the other interesting record to which we have just alluded, we infer that he was the brother of Simon d'Avranches, plaintiff, or appellant, in a trial by wager of battle with Baldwin, Comte de Guisnes, 10th February, 1201, respecting the right to some lands in Newington; for there can be no doubt that the hiatus in the MS. should be filled up thus:—"Inter Simonem de Avranches petentem per *Roellan*d. fratrem suum."—(Archæol. Cant. vol. ii. p. 265.) This name, which was that of his grandfather, who married Maud de Muneville, heiress of Folkestone, being most capriciously spelt, not only Roellandus, Ruellinus, Roelent, Rualo, and Ruallon, but also Graalandus and Graelent, as it will be found in the families of Tany, Valoignes, St. Ledger, and others, beside that of D'Avranches. In a document of the date 1127, printed by Mr. Boys in his "Collections for the History of Sandwich," pp. 551–3, the name of the grandfather is corrupted into *Ruerent de Aurences*, and in the "Rot. Curiæ Regis," 9th & 10th of Richard I., that of the grandson is indifferently given as *Grelent*, *Rohelandus*, and *Rolandus*. It has subsided into the more familiar form of Roland.

capital messuage and all the land *within the walls of Ratteburg* (the name by which Richborough was now known), and one acre which is outside the walls towards the south of the western entrance of the wall; and the eastern part of the field called *Cnolla;* and the northern part of the field which is north of the aforesaid field called *Cnolla;* and the northern part of the field called *Claure;* and the southern part of the field to the south of *the Thornbushes;* and the northern part of the field which is northward of *Hoga;* and the southern part of the field called *Nollis;* and the western part of the field called *Scantegas;* and the western part of the field which is to the north of the road which reaches to the walls of Ratteburg; and the eastern part of the field called *Staldingburg;* and the southern part of *Hoga;* and the western part of . . . . . and the north part of the field called *Stepatra;* and the western part of one acre which is to the south of the houses of the Lady Isabella. Moreover, these men remain to the aforesaid Elias and Constance his wife, and their heirs . . . . . Settlee, with all his holding and service; Estrilda, the wife of Wlfi, with all her holding and service; Luke and Philip, the sons of Wlfi, with all their holding and service; Nicholas Fitz-Wimund, with ten acres of his holding . . . . . Jordan of *Flete*, with all his holding and service, excepting the moiety of service which he owes for tenants' cart service; Edric le Sauner, with all his holding and service, and a moiety of the service . . . . . of Walter Hassard; to wit,

for the eastern part of his holding; and for the service of Alice the Angevine (or of Anjou); three pence halfpenny, and half the service of Roger Bulege; and for the revenue of Libricus Fitz-Richard, three pence three farthings.

"And for Ruellinus de Avranches, and his heirs, there remains his messuage in the field which is to the south from *the Thornbushes*, and all the land where the thorns are, to wit, of the above-named half knight's fee . . . . . it belongs to Ruellinus de Avranches . . . . . next *to the Mill;* and the western part of the field called *Cnolla;* and the southern part of the field to the north of the aforesaid field of *Cnolla;* and the southern part . . . . . The part of the field to the south of *the Thornbushes;* and the southern part of the field to the north of *Hoga;* and the northern part of the field called *Noll;* and the eastern part of the field . . . . . The part of the field which is to the north from the road to which reaches to the walls of Ratteburg; and the northern part of the field which is to the south of the wall of Ratteburg . . . . . and . . . . . the part of the field called *Staldingburga;* and the northern part of *Hoga;* and the eastern part of *Pasture;* and the southern part of the field called *Stepatra;* and the eastern part of one acre which is to the south of the houses . . . . . .

"Moreover, Alan de Berelinge remains to Ruellinus de Avranches, with all his holding and service; and Albrea, wife of Godwin, with all her holding and ser-

vice; and William le Scot, with all his holding . . . . Humphrey and Roger, sons of Wlwinus, with all their holding and service; Hugo Fitz-Eluric, with all his holding and service; and the homage of Nicholas Fitz-Wimund de v . . . . . are towards the north, near the field called Scantega; Mathew, son of Osbert, with all his holding and service; and half the service and revenue of Walter Hassard, to wit, for the western . . . . . and for the service of Alice the Angevine two pence halfpenny; and half the service of Roger de Bulege; and for the holding of Ederic * Fitz-Richard one penny three farthings, and two hens, and a moiety of service . . . . . da . . . . . to wit . . . . . owes for tenant cart service.

"And be it known that a whole moiety in the marshes and saltpits, with all the other appurtenances that belong to the above-named half knight's fee, remain to Elias de Beauchamp and his wife, and their heirs; and the other moiety remains to Ruellinus de Avranches and his heirs, with all its appurtenances, and the forstall † which is before the gate of the court is between . . . . . Elias de Beauchamp received the homage of the aforesaid Ruellinus for all the holdings described, which remain to the same Ruellinus, to be held by him

* Previously called *Libricus* Fitz-Richard.

† Forstall signified a grass plot in front of a gateway: several families have received the name of Forstall from owning or residing near one. "*Fostal*, a paddock to a large house or a way leading thereto. *Sussex.*"—(Halliwell, Archaic Dict.)

and his heirs of the aforesaid Elias and Constance his wife, and of their heirs, for the service of a fourth part of a knight's fee; and for this fine and agreement Ruellinus de Avranches gave to Elias de Beauchamp and Constance his wife ten silver marks."

We are sure it is not necessary to apologize to our least erudite readers for the insertion of this document *in extenso*, replete as it is with local and personal information of the greatest interest. Notwithstanding the tantalizing lacunæ which here and there occur in the manuscript, we learn from it the names of twenty individuals who held lands in Fleet in the reign of Richard Cœur de Lion, and nearly all of whom were living on the 4th of June, 1197, when this agreement was solemnly entered into at Westminster before Hubert, Archbishop of Canterbury; Ralph, Bishop of Hereford; and Richard, Bishop of Ely; Master Thomas de Husseburne, Richard de Heriet, Osbert Fitz-Hervey, Simon de Pateshull, Oger Fitz-Oger, justices; and other faithful servants of the King being then present. Amongst the names of the under-tenants we find that of Alan de *Berelinge*, reminding us of Bereling Street, in this parish, and that persons are still living in the neighbourhood who bear this name; of Jordan de Flete, apparently the most considerable landowner, as he had his surname from the manor itself. The Saxon names of Godwin, Ulfi or Ulsi, and Wulwin or Wulfin, probably those of descendants of families settled

there long before the Norman occupation.* But not only the names of the tenants are handed down to us, but those of the very fields they cultivated around the walls of Richborough Castle, and their positions so minutely and clearly described, that it would take no great trouble at the present day to identify them. That called Cnolla was most probably the one in which the amphitheatre was discovered. It still presents the appearance of a mound or *knoll* of earth. Stalding*burg*, from its termination, indicates some tradition of a town. The other names are of uncertain orthography, and may be corruptions; but it is yet possible they may be traced in charters and rolls of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. The salts mentioned are specified in Domesday (*vide* page 40, *ante*), and are still known as "the salt-pans;" and "the land within the walls of Ratteburg" leads us to imagine that it was even then pretty clear of buildings, and devoted to pasture or cultivation. Whether the "one capital messuage" was one of "the houses of the Lady Isabella," afterwards mentioned, is doubtful. The Lady Isabella was the sister of Constance, wife of Elias de Beauchamp, one of the parties to the agreement. They were daughters and co-heirs of Walter de Bolbec. By the Pipe Roll of the second of Richard I. (six years previous to the

* Just seventy years previous to this date we find the names of *Wulfin* de Bocklande, Sirent filius *Godwyne*, and *Wolfwyne* filius Coke, amongst those of grave old men of good reputation, "de provincie *circa* Sandwicum."—(Boys's Coll. p. 552.)

above agreement), we find that Earl Alberic de Vere* rendered account to the King of 500 marks for the daughter of Walter de Bolbec, to give her to his, Alberic's, son in marriage; and by the Pipe Roll of the ninth of John, A.D. 1208, that Robert de Vere gave the King 200 marks and three palfreys, to have Y[sabella] de Bolbec in marriage. The Lady Isabella then, about eleven years after the date of the Final Concord, became the wife of Robert de Vere, afterwards third Earl of Oxford, and who died fifth of Henry III., 1221. Their son, Hugh de Vere, fourth earl, was a minor at that period, and doing homage the fifteenth of Henry III., 1231, had livery of his paternal inheritance. His mother, Isabella, died twenty-ninth of the same reign, 1245, when he had also livery of the lands of her inheritance. Hugh died forty-seventh of Henry III., 1263, and was succeeded by his son Robert, fifth earl,† who died twenty-fourth of Edward I., 1297, when an inquisition was taken at Fleet, and the jurors returned that he held the manor of "Flete next Sandwich" of John,

* This Alberic de Vere was the first husband of Beatrice, only daughter and heir of Rose (or Sibilla, as she is sometimes called) de Guisnes and Henri Castellan de Bourbourg, and grand-daughter of Emma d'Arques, by her first husband Manasses Comte de Guisnes. *Vide* Chapter V., in which the singular confusion existing in the genealogy of the De Veres is examined, and an attempt made to reconcile the conflicting evidence.

† The editor of the Archæolog. Cant., in his remarks on the Final Concord, has confounded this Robert de Vere, fifth Earl, with his grandfather Robert, third Earl of Oxford.

son of John de Sandwyco (Sandwich) by service of one knight's fee, and that there is a capital messuage, with the curtilage, dove-cot, and certain closes, worth 6*s.* 8*d.* per annum. That the rents of assize at Michaelmas are 24*s.* 8*d.*; at the Feast of St. Martin, 74*s.* 5½*d.*; at the Feast of the Purification, 22*s.* 3*d.*; besides a rent at the Nativity of Our Blessed Lord of twenty-seven cocks, worth 1½*d.* each, and forty-two hens, worth 2*d.* each. That there are eighty acres of arable land worth 2*s.* per acre per annum; and 315 acres of marsh land worth 1*s.* each per annum; and that the sum total of the extent is £30. 18*s.* 5½*d.* Here we arrive at another curious and official description of Fleet in the reign of Edward I., at which time the manor was held by the Earl of Oxford of John, son of John de Sandwich, by his wife Agnes de Crevecœur, eldest daughter and co-heir of Maud d'Avranches, Lady of Folkestone. He was, therefore, a collateral descendant of the Ruellinus d'Avranches who held the moiety of half a knight's fee in Fleet in 1197. John de Sandwich, the younger, died in 1284, leaving an only daughter and heir, Juliana, aged eight, who, by her marriage with Sir John de Segrave, carried the barony of Folkestone and other estates into that family.

The manor of Fleet, however, held by the Earl of Oxford twenty-fourth of Edward I., was only one-half of the original manor, and was distinguished as Gurson Fleet. The other half was called Butler's Fleet, being held in the reign of King John by

Thomas Pincerna (*i.e.* Butler), a relative, no doubt, of the Archbishop Hubert, brother of Theobald Walter, under whom he held it as half a knight's fee.

To proceed, however, with

GURSON FLEET,

so named from the farm of Gurson, now called Guston, immediately adjoining that which has retained the name of Fleet. Robert de Vere, sixth Earl of Oxford, surnamed the Good,* who died third of Edward III., 1329, was found by the escheators of the king in that year to have been seized of this manor, still held of the family of Sandwich, as in the twentieth of the same reign, 1346, John, Earl of Oxford, and Nicholas, son of Thomas de Sandwich, were charged jointly to it for one knight's fee; the said Thomas de Sandwich having before held it of the Archbishop.† The De Veres continued to hold this manor to the end of the reign of Henry VI., when the venerable John de Vere, Earl of Oxford, and his eldest son,

* His temperance was such that the commonalty accounted him a saint. By the inquisition just quoted, he was found to be twenty-four years of age at the death of his father Robert, in 1297.

† A Fine Roll of the 3rd of Edward I., 1276, appears to indicate the period at which the family of Sandwich became holders of this manor. Thomas de Sandwich being then the plaintiff, and Robert de Crevecœur and Isolda his wife, defendants, &c., in Fleet by Sandwich, the right to which is recognized as belonging to the said Thomas de Sandwich and Johanna his wife, and the heir of the said Thomas. This heir was eventually the Sir Nicholas whom we find holding it in 1346.

Aubrey, for their attachment to the house of Lancaster, were attainted and afterwards beheaded on Tower Hill, first of Edward IV., and their estates forfeited to the Crown. The manor of Fleet was given to Richard, Duke of Gloucester, afterwards Richard III., by his brother, King Edward, in the second year of his reign; and after the battle of Bosworth and death of Richard, was, by King Henry VII., in the first year of his reign, restored to the family of De Vere, with the rest of their possessions.

It is shortly after this period that we obtain some further information respecting the state of Richborough. Leland, who visited it in the reign of Henry VIII., quaintly describes it as follows:— "Ratisburgh, otherwise Richboro, was, or ever the river Sture did turn his botom or old canale withyn the isle of Thanet, and by lykilyhood the mayne se cam to the very foote of the castel. The mayne se is now of it a myle by reason of the woze (ooze) that hath there broken up. The site of the old town or castel ys wonderful fair upon an hill. The walls, the wych remain ther yet, be in compasse almost as much as the tower of London. They have been very hye, thycke, stronge, and well embatelled. The mater of them is flynt, mervelluss and long brykes, both white and redde, after the Britons' fashion. The sement was made of the sand and smaul pibles. There is lykelyhood that the goodly hill about the castel, and especially to Sandwich ward, hath been well inhabited. Corne groweth on the hill yn mervelus plenty; and

yn going to plough there hath out of mynde (been) found, and now is, mo antiquities of Romayne mony then in any place els in England . . . . . There is a good flyte shot of fro Ratesburgh toward Sandwich a great dyke, cast yn a round cumpas, as it had been for fens of menne of warre. The cumpase of the ground withyn is not much above an acre, and that is very holo by casting up of the yerth. They call the place ther Lytelborough. Withyn ye castel is a little paroche church of St. Augustine, and an hermitage. I had antiquities of the heremite, the which is an industrius man.* Not far fro the hermitayge is a cave, wher men have sowt and dygged for treasure. I saw yt by candel withyn, and there were conys. Yt was so straite (*i. e.* narrow) that I had no mynd to crepe far yn. In the north syde of the castel, ys a hedde in the walle, now sore defaced with wether. They cawle yt Quene Bertha hedde.† Neare

* It appears there was a hermit at Reculver also at the close of the fifteenth century, of whom the name has descended to us. King Richard III., in the second year of his reign, granted a commission to "Thomas Hamond, *Hermyte*, of the chapel of St. James, being at our Lady of Reculver, ordeyned for the sepulture of such persons as by casualtie of stormy or other misadventures were perished, to receive the alms of charitable people for the building of the roof of chapel fallen downe."—(Harl. MS. No. 433, 2,170.) There is an old Kentish family of the name of Hamond, or Hammond, of which the hermit was probably a member. Some of them afterwards possessed this manor of Fleet.—*Vide* p. 55.

† A piece of stone so designated is still to be seen in the wall near the postern gate, but with every trace of features completely obliterated.

to that place, hard by the wal, was a pot of Romayne mony found."*

It is clear, from the above description, that there were still existing in Leland's time indications unmistakable of a considerable population having resided between the castle of Richborough and Sandwich, and in *Lowton* (a group of cottages below the amphitheatre towards Sandwich) we may probably distinguish a suburb of the ancient Ritupis. The dyke called Littleborough was thought by Mr. Hasted to have been a Danish work of the 10th century; but may it not have been the amphitheatre since discovered?† The "little parish church" mentioned by Leland is thus recorded in the will of Sir John Saunders, prebendary of Wingham, parson of Dymchurch, and vicar of Ash, dated August 14th, 1509:—"Item, I bequeath to the chapel of Richborough one portuys ‡ printed, with a masse book that was Sir Thomas the old preste. Item, to the use of the said chapel 20*s.* to make them a new windowe in the body of the church." On the eastern side, towards the cliff, were recently the vestiges of walls, certainly of mediæval date, which were considered by Mr. Roach Smith to be the remains of a chapel, and the adjoining spot, where portions of skeletons were discovered, appeared to have been the site of a burial-place attached to it.§

* "Itinerary," by Hearne, vol. vii. p. 128.

† Such seems to have been the opinion of Mr. Fussell.—*Vide* "Journey round the Coast of Kent."

‡ Portasse, a Breviary. § "Antiquit. of Richborough," p. 47.

This chapel, however, wherever it stood, was probably erected on the site of the original Saxon church, which would scarcely have escaped demolition by the Danes, and subsequently to the reign of Richard I., as no mention of any such building occurs in the minute description of Richborough in the Final Concord we have quoted above. It is called both chapel and church in the will of Sir John Saunders, and appears to have been a chapel of ease to the church of Ash, for the few remaining inhabitants in this part of the parish, and is mentioned as such in the grant of the rectory of that church, in the third year of the reign of Edward VI., when it was still in existence; soon after which, says Hasted, it probably fell to decay. And this leads us to another point of controversy amongst the antiquaries who have written on Richborough. The singular object now called St. Augustine's Cross has been by some thought to have marked the spot on which the chapel of St. Augustine once stood; but Mr. Roach Smith dismisses the suggestion as untenable. We venture to express our opinion that it does not deserve to be disposed of so hastily. It by no means follows, because the mass of masonry beneath it was the foundation of some Roman structure, that after the demolition of such structure a chapel might not be built upon it. The very cruciform appearance it presented (and which we have endeavoured to account for in the former chapter), would have favoured its selection in the eyes of the founders.

Nor need the size (42 feet by 34, and 30 by 8) be urged as an objection, as chapels may be found as small. Bonchurch, in the Isle of Wight, is scarcely, if any, bigger. And it was not imperative to limit the building to the exact proportions of the cross, which might have formed a remarkable feature within it. We by no means insist on such being the fact; we only object to the positive assertion to the contrary on such grounds as are given for it.

To return to the descent of this manor. In the reign of Elizabeth, Edward de Vere, Earl of Oxford (Philipot says *John*, who died fourth of Elizabeth) alienated the manor of Gurson Fleet to —— Hammond, in which family it continued till the reign of Charles II., when it was sold by them to the Rev. T. Turner, D.D., who died possessed of it in 1672. In 1748 it was purchased of his descendant by Dr. John Lynch, Dean of Canterbury, whose son, Sir William Lynch, K.B., died possessed of it in 1785, and bequeathed it, with all the rest of his estates, to his widow, Lady Lynch, who was the possessor in the time of Hasted. From the family of Lynch it passed to that of Brockman, of whom, in 1833, it was purchased by the late Mr. Thomas Coleman, who, in 1845, sold it to the Marchioness Dowager of Conyngham, who, dying October 11th, 1861, bequeathed it, with other property in this parish, to her eldest son, the present Marquis of Conyngham.

The site of Richborough Castle, however, seems to have been reserved in the sale of the manor to

Hammond, and passed to the family of Grant; thence to that of Thurbarne, of Sandwich; and from thence by marriage, with other property in this parish, to Colonel Edward Rivett, whose son, John Rivett, Esq., conveyed it in 1750 to Mr. Josias Farrer, of Doctors' Commons, London. His son, Josiah Fuller Farrer, Esq., sold the whole estate, with the site of Richborough Castle and other lands and premises adjoining, in 1781, to Peter Fector, Esq., of Dover. In the deed of conveyance is this description:—"And also all those walls and ruins of the antient Castle of Ruterpinum, now known by the name of Richborough Castle, with the scite of the antient port and city of Ruterpinum, being on and near the lands above mentioned."

The other portion of the manor of Fleet was distinguished as early as the reign of Henry III. by the name of

BUTLER'S FLEET,

from Thomas Pincerna, or le Boteler (?), its tenant under the Archbishop of Canterbury, and of his manor of Wingham, in the reign of King John. That this Thomas Pincerna was of the family of Theobald Walter Butler, ancestor of the Earls of Ormond, and brother of Hubert, Archbishop of Canterbury, under whom he held the manor, can scarcely be doubted. His successor, Robert Pincerna, left three sons—Robert, called le Boteler, Thomas, and William, a priest. John, son and heir of Robert, *temp.* Edward I., married Anne, daughter of —— Hanbury, and had

issue by her John le Boteler, living *temp.* Edward III., in the twentieth of whose reign the heir of Robert le Boteler answered for half a knight's fee which Robert le Boteler had previously held in Fleet of the Archbishop, and which was at that time held by William Lord Latimer, of Corbie, knight, and Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports; and from him the name of the manor was changed to

LATIMER'S FLEET.

Elizabeth, his sole daughter and heir, married John Lord Nevil of Raby, whose son John bore the title of Lord Latimer, having been knighted at Leicester by the King himself, and summoned to Parliament as Lord Latimer from the sixth of Henry IV.[1404] to the ninth of Henry VI.[1430] inclusive, in which year he died, and the greatest part of his inheritance came to Ralph Lord Neville, first Earl of Westmoreland, his eldest but half-brother, to whom he had sold the reversion, at his decease, of the barony of Latimer. The Earl vested it, together with this manor and much of the above-mentioned inheritance, in his younger son, George Neville, who was accordingly summoned to Parliament as Lord Latimer, tenth of Henry VI.,[1431] as "George de Latimer, Chevalier." His son, Sir Henry Neville, was slain at Edgecote Field, near Banbury, ninth of Edward IV.,[1469] and Lord Latimer died shortly afterwards in the same year, an idiot, his lands being in the custody of his nephew,

Richard Nevil, Earl of Warwick, the "King-maker." He was succeeded by his grandson, Richard, son of Sir Henry, killed at Edgecote; and he, in the same reign, alienated this manor, which had now acquired, from its last possessors, the name of

NEVIL'S FLEET,

to Sir James Cromer, Knight. His grandson, Sir William Cromer, in the eleventh of Henry VII., 1495 sold it to John Isaak, of Westbere, son of James Isaak, of Hode, and Elizabeth, daughter and heir of —— Cundy, Vice-Admiral to King Henry VII. From John Isaak it passed to —— Kendall, and he, in the beginning of the reign of Henry VIII., sold it to Sir John Fogg, of Repton, near Ashford, Knight, who died possessed of it in 1533. His son, of the same name, parted with it to Mr. Thomas Rolfe, and he shortly afterwards to Stephen Hougham, of Ash, gentleman, who, by his will, dated 20th of November, 1555, and proved 23rd of March following, devised to his youngest son, Richard Hougham, of Eastry, all his rents, suit, and service of his manor of Neville's Fleet, and a piece of meadow called Swallow's Brook, lying in Ash, which he lately purchased of Thomas Rolfe, junior, John Brooke, of Ash, nephew of Stephen Hougham, also gave "certain lands, parcel of the manor of Nevil's Fleet" to John, son of Richard Hougham, his godson, by will proved Feb-

ruary 7th, 1582. From the Houghams it seems to have passed to Sir Adam Spracklyn, Knight, who, according to Hasted, sold it to one of the family of Septvans, *alias* Harfleet,* in which it continued till shortly after the reign of King Charles I., when it went, he tells us, by a female heir, Elizabeth, in marriage, to Thomas Kitchell, Esq. We have not been successful in identifying this Elizabeth in any of the multifarious pedigrees of the Harfleets;* but an Elizabeth Harfleet was married to Thomas Kitchell, at St. Mary Bredin's Church, Canterbury, in 1652.† According to Hasted also, the heirs of Kitchell alienated the manor, about 1720, to Mr. Thomas Bambridge, warder of the Fleet Prison, London (a singular association of localities); upon whose death it became vested in his heirs-at-law, Mr. James Bambridge, of the Inner Temple, London, and another Thomas Bambridge, who divided the estate, the latter parting with his portion to

* Henry Harfleet, son of Henry Harfleet and Mary Slaughter, married secondly Bennedetta Hougham, March 26th, 1629 (Ash Registers), by whom he does not appear to have had any issue. His first wife was Dorcas, daughter of Joshua Pordage, of Sandwich, by whom he had nine children.

† Additional MSS. Brit. Mus., No. 5507. The Harfleets had lands in Fleet as early as the fifteenth century, but they were in the other portion, called Gurson Fleet, as is clear from the will of Thomas, who died 1559, and bequeathed to his son Christopher his "lease in the manor of Flete next Sandwich, *being of the inheritance of the Earl of Oxford*," which Nevil's Fleet was not. A branch of the Harfleets continued to reside at Fleet to the end of the seventeenth century.

Mr. Peter Moulson, of London. His only daughter and heir carried it in marriage to Mr. George Vaughan, of London, and he and the assignees of Mr. James Bambridge, last mentioned, conveyed the whole fee of the manor to Mr. Joseph Solly, of Sandwich, the owner in Hasted's time, and in whose family it continued till 1846, when it was purchased by the late Mr. Thomas Coleman, of Gurson, for the Marchioness Dowager of Conyngham, who devised it by will, together with Gurson Fleet, to her eldest son, the present marquis.

GOSHALL.

The origin of the name of this manor has not been made a subject of inquiry or speculation. In early documents it is spelt indifferently Goshall, Gosehaule, Goshale, and Gozehale; but no inference can safely be drawn from the arbitrary orthography of the Middle Ages. In the reign of the Conqueror we find it held by a knight named Arnoldus, of the gift of Archbishop Lanfranc, who, by the same charter we have quoted concerning Fleet,* gives the tithes of the manors of Goshall and Golston to the church of St. Gregory in Canterbury. In the record which Dr. Somner calls Domesday, an Arnoldus—probably the same—holds, in conjunction with Wibertus, three sulings of the archbishop, of the manor of Wingham, valued at £12. As early as the eighth of Henry III.,

* Dugdale, "Mon. Ang." vol. ii. p. 373.

A.D. 1224, we find a Ranulph de Gosehaule holding land under the Archbishop of Canterbury ;* and by a fine roll, seventeen years later, it appears to have been a knight's fee and a half in Goshall; that Ranulph was then dead, and his son and heir Walter in possession of it.† But about the same period there was another and much more important person connected with Goshall, though we have not yet been able to ascertain the exact nature of his tenure. This was Sir John Maunsel or Mansel, one of the secular clergy, the great favourite of Henry III., who heaped preferment upon him until at last his annual income is said to have amounted to more than 4,000 marks, "besides 700 which he had accumulated;" insomuch,

* "P. dnō Cantuar. Rex Vič Kānc salt. Monst'vit nob S. Cantuar Arch qđ tu ℞ā Rann de Gosehaule q̄ est de feodo suo ī manū tuâ cepisti eo qđ cuilz Vič de novo costituto dari cōsuevit duñ marc de ℞ra illa ut dicis. Et iō t' p̄cipimus qđ si ita est p̄dēm feodū dnō Cantuar i pace dimittas inq sup pxim̄ cōpotū tr ū ad sa'cm̄ nr̄m ad instans festū s̄ci Mich ut tuc corā fidelibz de cōsilio nr̄o vitas inde pleni inq̄rat' qª inqisita qđ justū fuit statuat. T. R. ap. Bed. xxxj die Jul."—Rot. Claus. 8th Henry III., 1224.

From a charter cited in p. 84, it would appear that this Ranulf was the son of a Robert de Gosehaule.

† "P. Wallº. de Gosehal. Mandatum est Custodibz Archiep'r' Cantuar q̄d accepta secitate a Walt̄o de Gosehal filio ī hede Rənulfi de Gosehal' qui tenuit fecđ uni' militis t dimiđ cū ptiñ in Gosehal' de vij libi 't x. sōl p quos finē fecit cum R p servic̄o suo t de alio svic̄io si quod inde R debet de omibuz tris t tenementis que ipsom Walt hereditar ctingt 't de quibz id Ranulf fuit seisit' ut de feodo die quo obiit eidem Walt̄o sesm̄a hr̄e fac. T. R. apud Windles xvj die Marč."—Fine Roll, 25th of Henry III., A.D. 1241.

says the old chronicler,* that there was not a clerk found so wealthy as he. Parson of Maidstone in Kent, of Hoveden (Howden), co. York, and of Wigan, co. Lancaster, Treasurer of the church of York, Chancellor of St. Paul's, London, Provost of Beverley, Chief Justice of England, a privy councillor, chaplain to the king, and Keeper of the Great Seal; to these multifarious offices and duties were added, in 1254, the appointment of Ambassador to the court of Spain, on the occasion of the marriage of Edward, the king's son, to Eleanor, daughter of Alphonso, King of Castile; whence he brought back with him a charter sealed with gold, by which King Alphonso, for himself and his heirs, renounced to the king of England all claim to the province of Gascony. He was also associated with the Earl of Gloucester on a special mission to Germany, and was sent with other persons of distinction to attend the parliament in Paris. With all this, he was a valiant soldier. He took prisoner the High Steward of Boulogne in the great battle between the French and English at Saintoigne in 1242, and was wounded severely the following year in an action before the monastery of Verines, in Gascony, by a stone flung from the walls, which crushed his leg, and caused him a long and serious illness, but increased his favour still more with the king, who bestowed most abundant revenues upon him, and whose will he witnessed in 1253.† In 1258, he

* Matthew Paris.

† "Rymeri Fœdera," vol. i. pars I.

founded the Priory of Bilsington, in the hundred of Newchurch, Romney Marsh, having purchased part of the manor of Bilsington of the heirs of Hugh de Albany, Earl of Arundell, and bestowed upon it all his portion of the manor, and his whole land of Polre *Gozehale*, and Eeche (Ash), making one William the first prior thereof.* In 1262 he had charge of the Tower of London, from which he took flight clandestinely in 1264, in order to escape from the fury of the rebellious barons. This is the last we hear of him in the history of the period; and it appears he died in the course of that year, "the richest man in the world," says Matthew Paris, "according to report." As an instance of his wealth, the following circumstance is related by the same chronicler, under the date 1256, and on the occasion of the visit of Alexander, King of Scotland, and his queen to King Henry III.

"When the king (Henry) approached London, his eldest son, Edward, with many other nobles, went to meet him, and the city was decorated in honour of the arrival of the great personages expected; for there were present the King and Queen of England, the King and Queen of Scotland, Edward, and a large number of nobles and prelates. On the festival of St. Augustine the Teacher, John Mansel asked permission to entertain all the noble guests on the morrow, which request was granted to him. He

* "Mon. Ang." vol. ii. p. 333.

therefore invited to a magnificent dinner the kings of England and Scotland, and all the earls, barons, and knights, English as well as Scotch; also the Bishop of London, and a great many of the citizens. So numerous, indeed, were his guests, that his house at *Tothale* * was not capable of holding them all: and he caused some large and regal pavilions to be pitched for the accommodation of the guests. Those who partook of this feast were so many in number that seven hundred dishes were scarcely sufficient for the first course of it; and never at any time was any prelate known to be able to provide such a rich and abundant feast, for all were supplied with an abundance of every kind of luxury" (page 931).

Of the family of this Wolsey of the ~~fourteenth~~ 13th century nothing has been handed down to us on which we can rely. A Philip de Maunsel, son of Philip Arbalistarius and Mabel de Erlegh, appears to have married a daughter of the Sir Hugh de Auberville who died fourteenth of John (1213). If Sir John Maunsel was the son of Henry, the elder brother of this Philip, as set down by some genealogists, his connection with the Aubervilles might account for his possession of property in this corner of Kent, where, by their intermarriage with the families of Sandwich and Criol, so much land must have been owned or occupied by their collaterals; but he is also said to

* A manor then in the possession of Sir John Maunsel, afterwards popularly known as Tothill Fields, Westminster.

have married Joan, the daughter of Simon de Beauchamp, of Bedford (from this marriage Collins and Banks derive the family of Lord Mansell of Margam); and here we come upon another family, holding in the immediate vicinity, jointly with that of Avranches, in the reign of Richard I. He may, however, have acquired his estates in this parish by purchase, as he did that of Bilsington. Some of them eventually passed into the possession of the family of Sandwich; but the Goshalls continued to hold their own portion of that particular manor for some considerable period. We have seen that Walter de Goshall succeeded his father, Ranulph, in 1241. He was living in the 37th of that reign, A.D. 1253, when a final concord was entered into between him and Richard de Hagshebye, respecting sixty acres of land in Ash. After which, eighth of Edward I., 1280, we find a Henry de Gosehale entering into an agreement with Alan Tyte about lands at Cotmanton, in Ash. The next of that name we meet with is Sir John de Goshall, who in the reign of Edward I. accounted to the Archbishop for two knight's fees he held under him at Goshall. He was living in the 34th of that king's reign, A.D. 1306, when he had a suit with one Peter Lincoln, respecting some lands in Ash. (Final Concord, *sub anno.*) He was succeeded by Henry de Goshall in or before the 6th of Edward II., 1313, who married Margaret, daughter of Sir Thomas, and sister of Nicholas de Sandwich. This Henry was seized of Goshall in the 18th of

Edward II., and was associated with Henry de Cobham, 6th of August, 1324, as supervisor in the parts of East Kent, of the general array of the kingdom against the invasion threatened by the King of France.* He was dead in the 7th Edward III., 1335, leaving four sons,† the eldest of whom, John de Goshall, resided here in the reign of Edward III., in the 20th of whose reign, A.D. 1346, the Lady Goshall, who was late wife of Sir John de Goshall, paid aid for one knight's fee and a half which he had held at Goshall and Goldstanton of the Archbishop.

A third John de Goshall appears to have attained his majority in the following year; ‡ and at the same time we meet with a notice of a Walter de Goshall, who had a suit against Thomas de Pedding for the manor of Clivesend, in the Isle of Thanet.§ In 1369, Elizabeth Goshall is returned as seized of lands in Goshall, Wingham, Preston, Goldstanton, Overland, Elmstone, Whelmstone, and Helles;‖ and acquittances and charters are extant in which she is

* Rymer's "Fœdera," vol. iv. p. 78; and on the 22nd of September with Thomas de Sandwich as guardians of the ports and coasts of Kent during the absence of the fleets.

† John, Henry, Walter, and Robert: the last three were under age in 1335. From a charter of Walter there appears to have been another brother, named Thomas, who died *vit. Patris*, leaving no issue by his wife Beatrice. *Vide* Chapter V.

‡ Rot. Pat. 21st Edward III., pars I. Fine for the manor of Goldston.

§ Rot. Pat. 21st Edward III., 1347.

‖ Inquisition *post mortem*, 43rd Edward III.

described as Elizabeth, "qui fuit uxor Johannes de Gosehale," as late as the 2nd of Richard II., 1379. Shortly after which time, Goshall appears to have passed by a female heir, Elizabeth, in marriage, to Thomas St. Nicholas.* Roger St. Nicholas, who died in 1484, left a sole daughter and heir, Elizabeth, who conveyed Goshall to her husband, John Dynely, of Charlton, co. Worcester, Esq. His eldest son, Henry, alienated it about the middle of Queen Elizabeth's reign, to John Roper, of Linsted, co. Sussex, Esq., who was afterwards knighted, and, 14th James I., A.D. 1616, created Baron of Teynham. In his descendants it remained till 1705, when Henry, Lord Teynham, conveyed the estate to trustees for the use of Sir Henry Furnesse of Waldershare, Bart., who in 1708 settled it on his son Robert on his marriage with Anne, daughter of Anthony Balam, Esq. Sir Robert died in 1733, leaving by his second wife, the Lady Arabella Watson, a son Henry, who survived his father only a short time, dying under age and unmarried, in 1735, when the estates, being divided according to the limitations in his grandfather's will, the manor of Goshall, with the mansion, lands, and appurtenances belonging to it, was allotted by a writ of partition, confirmed by Act of Parliament ninth of George II., 1737, to Selina, daughter and co-heir of Sir Robert Furnesse. This lady married Edward Dering, of Surrenden, Esq., afterwards Sir Edward

* *Vide* Chapter V.

Dering, Bart., who sold Goshall in 1779 to Peter Fector, of Dover, Esq. His son, John Minet Fector, resold it in 1835 to the late Mr. Thomas Coleman, of Gurson, from whom it was conveyed in 1845 to the Dowager Marchioness of Conyngham. Her ladyship, who deceased Oct. 11, 1861, bequeathed it, with other estates in this parish, to her eldest son, the present Marquis of Conyngham, of whom the land is now rented by Mr. Thomas Coleman, of Gurson, son of the former proprietor.

GOLDSTON,

otherwise Goldstanton,* was, together with Goshall, granted, as we have already stated, by Archbishop Lanfranc to one Arnold, or Arnoldus, and in 1202 (fourth of John) we find a Robert de Goldstanton, who, in a recognizance of "mort d'ancestor," acknowledges twenty-five acres in Goldstaneston, "cum pertinentiis," to be held by William Fitz-Arnold and his heirs for ever of the said Robert and his heirs,

* Originally, perhaps, Goldstan's Town, from some Saxon proprietor. In a plea held at Sandwich in 1127, by command of Henry II., concerning the toll and custom of Sandwich haven, we find one of the twelve jurors, "King's men of Dover," named "Goldstan filius Brunig," whom it is not too wild a speculation to imagine a descendant of the old Saxon stock in Ash, as the whole twenty-four persons selected from Dover and the *vicinity of Sandwich* are particularly said to have been all grave old men and of good reputation:—"Viginti quatuor maturi sapientes sanes multorum mannorum bonum testimonium habentes."—(Boys's Collections.) And the above date is only sixty-one years after the Conquest.

by the payment of half a marc per annum in lieu of all service except "forinsec" (*i. e.*, extraordinary military service). From the particular nature of this document there can scarcely be a doubt that the immediate descendants of Lanfranc's original grantee, Arnoldus, were still living on their paternal estate at the commencement of the reign of King John. The manor is found in the possession of the family of Goshall, Sir John de Goshall being recorded, *temp.* Edward I., as holding of the Archbishop two knight's fees in Goldstanton and Goshall, and we have little doubt that the Robert de Goldstanton of 1202 is identical with the Robert de Goshall who was dead in 1224. A division of this property appears to have been subsequently made, as in the twentieth of Edward III., Walter, son of Henry de Gosehale, Knight, gave by his charter, dated 12th of January in that year, a third part of the manor of Goldstanton, with its appurtenances, which Beatrice, the widow of his late brother, Thomas de Gosehale, held in dower, to John de Gosehale, Knight, and Elizabeth his wife.—(Harleian Charters, Brit. Mus., 78 D, 32.) In the same book of the fees held of the Archbishop, William de Leyghe is said to hold half a fee in Elmes, otherwise Nell, a place about half a mile distant from Goldston House, to the manor of which it seems formerly to have been an appendage, and on the aid paid the 20th of Edward III., Anne, late wife of William de Leyghe, is charged with one quarter of a fee, which the said

William before held of the Archbishop, in Elmes or Ash.*

Simultaneously with the Goshalls and the Leyghes the great family of Leybourne had some property in this manor. Harris says that, in the fiftieth year of the reign of Henry III. (1266), this manor was in the possession of Sir Robert (Roger) de Leybourne; and it was certainly brought in marriage by his granddaughter Juliana to her third husband, William de Clinton, Earl of Huntingdon, who, in the twenty-eighth of Edward III., appears by the Escheat Rolls to have died without issue,† seized of the manor of Goldstanton, leaving his nephew, Sir John Clinton, his heir, in whose descendants it continued till the reign of Henry IV., when it passed from one of them to Richard Clitherow, Sheriff of Kent, fourth and fifth of Henry IV., and in the seventh of the same reign appointed Admiral of the Seas from the Thames westward. By his wife, the daughter of Sir John Oldcastle, he left a son, Roger Clitherow, one of the warriors at Agincourt, who by his wife,

* Amongst the Harleian charters are several acquittances for rent for the manor of Elmes or Nelmes, in Eshe juxta Sandwich, from Elizabeth Domina de Goshall to another William de Legh and other persons, of various dates, from the 44th of Edward III. to the 1st of Richard II.; and two similar documents are amongst the charters of Combewell Priory, preserved in the College of Arms.

† Segur, however, in a note in his MS. Baronage, a most valuable recent addition to the library of the College of Arms, says that he found Elizabeth, wife of Sir John Fitz-William, of Sprotsburgh, co. York, "to be a daughter of this Earl of Huntingdon."—Vol. i. p. 260.

Matilda, left three daughters and co-heirs. The eldest, Alianor, married John Norris, who had with her this manor; and his son and heir, John, was in ward by reason of his nonage, at the time of his father's death, ninth of Edward IV. His descendant, William Norris, of Ash, gentleman, died possessed of it second of Henry VII. (1487), without issue by Anne, his wife, and was succeeded by his younger brother, John, who alienated it to John Lord Clinton, who, in the sixth of Henry VIII., died seized of the manors of Goldstanton and Lee, *alias* Elmes, leaving Thomas Lord Clinton his son and heir. This nobleman died two years afterwards, of that fatal disorder called "the sweating sickness," which swept off many distinguished personages at that period. His son and heir, Edward, was then an infant, but afterwards became one of the most eminent men of the age, and in the thirtieth of Henry VIII., by the title of Lord Clinton and Saye, he, with Elizabeth his wife, conveyed the manor of Goldstanton, with all other his estates in this parish, to Thomas Lord Cromwell, afterwards Earl of Essex, on whose attainder, only two years after, it came into the hands of the Crown. In the thirty-fourth year of his reign, Henry VIII. granted the manor of Goldston, *alias* Goldstanton, with the manor of Lees, *alias* Nells, in Ash, Winsborough (Woodensborough), and Wingham, to Vincent Engham, Esq., to hold "in capite," and his son Thomas had seizing of this estate fifth of Elizabeth. He bequeathed it to

his son Thomas, afterwards Sir Thomas Engham, of Goodneston (now Gunston), Knight, who, at the latter end of Queen Elizabeth's reign, alienated it to Mr. Courcelis, of London, who sold it to Sir William Wilde, Bart., one of the Justices of the King's Bench, in the reign of Charles II., and Recorder of London and M.P. for the City in 1660. He died 1679, and was buried in the Temple Church, London, having settled these manors in tail male on the issue of his second wife, Frances Lady Wilde, who resided at Goldston in her widowhood, and died possessed of it in 1719. On the death, in 1731, of the widow of her son, William Wilde, Esq., who held it in jointure, the manor devolved to the only daughter of Sir Felix Wilde, the eldest son of Sir William by his first wife, "Eleanor, daughter of Sir Thomas Twisden, the Judge,"* and the three daughters and co-heirs of William, his son by his second wife, Frances; and they continued joint owners of the undivided estate till the twenty-seventh of George II., 1754. In that year an Act of Parliament was passed to divide it and apportionate it in six parts, according to articles of agreement entered into by the several parties concerned. Three of the six parts, or one moiety of the whole, were allotted to Nicholas Toke, of Godington, Esq., in right of Eleanor, his wife, sole daughter and heir of John Cockman, M.D., by Anne (or Margaret), daughter and sole heir of Sir Felix Wilde, above mentioned.

* Streatfield's MS. "She died 1689."

This moiety consisted of the manor of Goldston, with the Court Baron, and its rights and appurtenances, and a farm called Goldston Farm, containing 220 acres of land. The other three parts were allotted, first, to Robert Colebrooke, of Chillam Castle, Esq., whose father, James, had purchased Upper Goldston Farm of William Beaudon, Esq., husband of Frances, eldest daughter and co-heir of Mr. William Wilde aforesaid; second, Lower Goldston Farm, containing the mansion of Goldston House, with the lands, 126 acres, garden, lodge, and moat, and several other premises in Ash, to John Masters, in right of his wife Margaret, second daughter and co-heir of William Wilde; third, consisting of divers premises in Ash, to Anna and Maria Herenden, co-heirs of Thomas Herenden, of Eltham, surgeon, by Elizabeth his wife, third daughter and co-heir of William Wilde. The manor of Goldston remains still in the family of Toke of Goddington, descended from Robert de Toke, who was present with Henry III. at the battle of Northampton, 1264, and was also ancestor of the Tokes of Bere, in Westcliffe and other places in the counties of Cambridge, Dorset, and Hertford. Its present representative in Kent and owner of this manor, is Nicholas Toke, of Goddington, Esq.

Upper Goldston Farm was sold in 1775 to Robert Heron, of Chillam Castle, Esq., from whom it passed to Fogg and others, and then to Brown, of Ash, who alienated it, in 1788, to Mr. John Alexander, of God-

mersham, the possessor in Hasted's time, who had married Jane, daughter of Henry Brown, of Ash. It is now the property of Mr. Delmar, of Canterbury.

Lower Goldston Farm was sold by Mr. John Turner, of Ash, surgeon, grandson of Mr. John Masters (and who was the owner in Hasted's time), to Mr. Delmar. This has been since resold in portions, and the principal proprietor is now Mr. Chandler. The mansion of Goldston, which was the residence of Mr. Thomas Jull, second husband of Elizabeth Masters, was pulled down some few years ago.

OVERLAND.

Of this manor,* situated in a borough of the same name, about a mile and a half north-west from Ash church, we have as yet found no record previous to the reign of Henry III., when, as Hasted has stated, it was held of the Archbishop by the eminent family of Criol or Keriel, having been granted by that king, in the twenty-fifth year of his reign, to Bertram de Criol, Warden of the Cinque Ports, and Constable of Dover Castle, who, from his large possessions in this county, was called the Great Lord of Kent, from whose heirs it passed, in the following reign of Edward I., into the family of Leybourne; and William, son of Roger de Leybourne, died seized of it in the second

* The name of this manor is evidently derived from the high land of which it is composed, and which formerly was the shore (Ofer, A.-S.) of the sea which covered the marsh beneath it, and was bounded on the other side by the Isle of Thanet.

year of the reign of Edward II., A.D. 1328, leaving his grand-daughter Juliana, the daughter of his son Thomas, who died in his lifetime, his next heir. This lady, the heiress not only of her paternal grandfather, "the Great Lord of Kent," but of her maternal great-grandfather, Sir Ralph de Sandwich,* was, with equal felicity, styled "the Infanta of Kent." Hasted says "she married three husbands, and yet died childless, her vast estates escheating to the Crown, it appearing that no one could be found to make claim to her property even by a collateral alliance." Such, however, is not exactly the case, although the assertion is apparently borne out by the fact that the lands were seized by the Crown; and that this manor of Overland remained in it until Richard II. bestowed it on Sir Simon de Burley, K.G., Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports. It is singular so little should be known of this celebrated heiress, first the wife of John de Hastings, Lord Bergavenny; secondly, of Thomas le Blunt; and thirdly, of Sir William de Clinton, a younger brother of Lord Clinton of Maxtoke, ancestor of Lord Clinton and Say, and of the

* Sir Ralph, by his wife Juliana (Peyforer?), had a daughter of the same name, who married William de Leybourne. She survived her husband, and died *ante* second of Edward III. Juliana, relicta W^mi^ (de Leybourne) tenuit messuagium et 40 acras terri cum ptni in Overlande de Archipatu Cantuar. Juliana defunct 2nd Edward III.—(Originalia, 2, 17.) In the close Roll of the 1st of Edward III. she is stated to be the heir of Ralph de Sandwich. Juliana de Leybourne, daughter of her son Thomas, was born 32nd Edward I., 1304.

present Duke of Newcastle. By this fortunate marriage Sir William attained great honours, and was raised by King Edward III. to the title and dignity of Earl of Huntingdon. Upon his decease, twentieth Edward III.,* Juliana, for the third time a widow, became again possessed of this and others of her estates, and died in the forty-first of the same reign, 1367, but not under the strange circumstances above mentioned. She had issue by her first husband a son named Lawrence, born thirteenth of Edward II., who succeeded his father as Lord Bergavenny, and was created Earl of Pembroke. His son John, Lord Hastings, second Earl of Pembroke, died in 1375, leaving a son John under age, and ward of the king. This young nobleman being accidentally killed in a tournament at Windsor, fifteenth of Richard II., 1392, while still a minor, all the estates to which he was heir of course escheated to the crown, and it was on *this* occasion that his great-grandmother Juliana, who had preceded him to the grave some five-and-twenty years, was found to have no surviving kindred, either direct or collateral. Recent inquiries have also resulted in the discovery that it was through her great-grandmother, also named Juliana, wife of Sir Simon de Sandwich, that a considerable portion of the property must have descended. Who *she* was has

* He is stated by the jurors to have died seized of Folkestone Villa, Goldstanton in Ash Villa, Wingham Villa, St. Nicholas Villa, Isle of Thanet, Preston, Elmstone, Overland, and Sandwich Villa.—Escheat, 28th Edward III.

still to be ascertained. It is probable, however, that she was the daughter of Fulk Peyforer, and perhaps of the blood of Crevecœur, as some of the estates are found to have been held by an early ancestor of that family. Sir Simon de Burley being attainted of treason in the tenth year of Richard II., 1387, he was found guilty and beheaded, and was buried in St. Paul's Cathedral. The manor of Overland became again vested in the Crown, and was subsequently granted to the Priory of Canons, *alias* Chiltern Langley, co. Herts.

On the suppression of that house, thirtieth of Henry VIII., it came into the king's hands, and was granted, with the priory and other estates belonging to it, to Richard, Bishop Suffragan of Dover, for his life, or till he should be promoted to some ecclesiastical benefice of the yearly value of £100, which had not occurred before the thirty-sixth year of that reign, as the king then granted the reversion of this and other manors to Sir Thomas Moyle, Knight, and Walter Hendley, his Attorney-General, who was afterwards knighted; the latter of whom died seized of the manor of Overland, sixth of Edward VI., leaving three daughters and co-heirs,—Elizabeth, married to George Fane; Helen, to Thomas Colepepper; and Anne, wife of —— Covert, who joined in the sale of it in the following year to Simon Lynch, of Staple, gentleman. From Lynch it passed through the families of Gybbs, Harfleet, Bargrave, and Solly, by sale, before the end of Queen Elizabeth; and shortly after

to Mr. John Ward, of London, whose widow, Catherine, held it in dower at the restoration of Charles II. After her death, it continued in the family of Ward till one of them sold it to William Lord Cowper, afterwards created Earl Cowper. In 1735 and 1739, two acts of parliament were passed for settling this estate, then valued at £90 per annum; among others, of William Earl Cowper, deceased. His great-grandson, George Augustus Earl Cowper, succeeded to the estate in 1789, on the death of his father, George Clavering Earl Cowper, at Florence; and the property is still in the same noble family.

A Court Baron is held for this manor. Of the chapel of Overland, formerly a chapel of ease to the church of Ash, we shall speak elsewhere.

MOLLAND.

The manor of Molland is situated in the borough of Chilton, and a short distance north of Guilton Town. In the thirteenth century it was held by a family to which it gave its name. One of the jurors named in the inquisition of the 36th of Henry III., above quoted, was "William atte Molande," and in the forty-fifth of the same reign (A.D. 1271) two parts of a messuage in Ash were acknowledged by Andrew de Molland, Matilda his wife, and Idonea de la Forde, to be the property of Thomas de Sandwich. Harris says the Mollands were extinct in Edward II.'s time; but "Thomas at Molond" is a witness to two charters by John de Goshall, dated 16th of Edward III.,

and there was certainly a family of that name living in Ash as late as the reign of Richard II.* It is probable, however, that the issue of the branch resident at Molland may have failed about the former period, as Sir Nicholas de Sandwich, son of Thomas de Sandwich, by his wife, a daughter of Thomas de Helles, of Woodnesborough, died seized of Molland in the reign of Edward III., and left an only daughter named Anne, who carried it with other estates in this parish to her husband, John Septvans, brother or cousin of the Sir William Septvans who was Sheriff of Kent fourth of Richard II. His son Gilbert succeeded to his mother's inheritance in this county, comprising the manors of Molland and Checquer. He resided at the latter manor-house, and married Constance, daughter and co-heir of Thomas Ellis, of Sandwich, founder of the hospital of St. Bartholomew at that place.

John is said to have been lieutenant to John Lord Gray of Codnore, at the siege of Harfleur in 1415, and his son Gilbert, by reason of his residence there, or the services performed by himself or his father, assumed the old English name for that town, viz. Harfleet. That this cannot be altogether true, is clear from the fact that John Septvans must have

* *Vide* Chapter V.

† Philipot, and Hasted following him, sometimes represent John Septvans as the son of Sir William, father of the sheriff, and sometimes as the son of Simon de Septvans, Sir William's brother. *Vide* Chapter V. for an inquiry into this matter.

died before 1399, as by a deed dated in that year (twenty-second of Richard II.), William and Thomas de Molland in Ash gave to "Gilbert Septvans, *alias* at Cheker," half an acre of land near Smallbrooke, in Ash, situated between the lands of the aforesaid William and Thomas on the west; those of the heirs of William Roger on the north; of the lands of the aforesaid Gilbert on the south; and of the *heirs of John Septvans* on the east. Unfortunately also for the tradition, the name of Gilbert *Alfleet* occurs in a deed of gift of John Septvans to the said Gilbert and John Gray, of all his lands in Ash, as early as the seventeenth of Richard II., 1394; so that the death of John may be fairly considered to have taken place within the following five years, and consequently from fifteen to twenty years previous to Henry V.'s celebrated expedition. The same Gilbert Alfleet, no doubt, answers, twenty-second Richard II., 1399, for the chantry of the church of Ash, for three messuages, 242 acres of land, and seventeen acres of marsh, seven marcs seven shillings and fourpence. There is much doubt and confusion indeed in all the accounts of this family, and also in that of Sandwich, from an heiress of which the Harfleets descended. Philipot has three pedigrees in the College of Arms, each contradicting the other in some most important particulars, though avowedly compiled from evidences partly furnished by the family. In his "Villare Cantianum" he also gives two entirely different accounts

of the descent, and seems to have bewildered Hasted, who has made confusion worse confounded by stating, both in his account of Molland and Chequer, in Ash, and of Milton Septvans, that Anne, daughter and heir of Sir Nicholas de Sandwich, married Sir William de Septvans, who died in 1407. But we should bewilder our readers if we attempted to unravel this tangled skein in this portion of our history. It must suffice to state at present, that the greater part of the errors appear to have arisen from the confusion of two separate branches of the family, occasioned by a similarity of Christian names, as will be shown hereafter. Gilbert, we have seen, was styled "Septvans, *alias* at Cheker;" and his son Thomas also thus designates himself. Philipot in one of his Pedigrees says that this Thomas assumed the name of Harfleet from his manor of Fleet, altogether ignoring the tradition he has in other places recorded. Thomas's son Christopher was undoubtedly called "Harflete, *alias* at Cheker," as was his son Raymond, who married Beatrix, daughter of Richard Brooke, and is described as of Molland. Their son, Thomas Harfleet, called himself also Thomas at Chequer, and marrying first Bennet, daughter and heir of John Winborne, and secondly Marian, daughter of Edward Brockhull, died seized of Molland in 1559, and bequeathed it to his son Christopher Harfleet, who wrote himself "Septvans, *alias* Harflete," resuming the old name of his family. He died in 1575, leaving by his wife Mercy, daughter of Thomas

Hendley, and widow of Edmund Fowler, of Islington, several children. She possessed this seat at her death in 1602, when it came to her eldest son, Sir Thomas Harfleet, Knight, who was three times married; first to Elizabeth, daughter of William Gilborne, Esq.; secondly to Bennett, daughter of Michael Berisford, Esq.; and thirdly to Dorothy, daughter of Avery Mantell, and widow of Menvil, or Menfield, of Feversham. By his first wife he appears to have had no issue. Hasted does not even mention her; but by Bennett he had a very numerous family. Michael Harfleet, of Molland, Esq., his eldest son, died without issue in 1619, and left this estate to his brother, Christopher Harfleet, who was afterwards knighted, and at first resided here, and then removed to St. Stephen's, near Canterbury, where he died in 1662, leaving by Aphra, his wife, widow of Alcott, a son, Thomas Harfleet, of Molland, Esq., who is said by Hasted to have married Margaret, sister of George Newman, of Rochester, Esq., by whom he left an only daughter, Aphra, wife of John St. Ledger, of Doloraine, in Ireland. This statement is, however, contradicted by the pedigree in the Visitation of Kent, D. 13, Coll. Arms, signed by Margaret herself, who was the wife of another Thomas Harfleet, of Trapham, in Wingham, cousin of Christopher. (*Vide* Chapter V.) John St. Ledger sold Molland to Thomas Singleton, M.D., who died here in 1710. Mary, his wife, held it in dower in Harris's time, who commemorates her as "a lady of fine endowments both

of mind and body." At her death it came to her son John, who sold it in 1727 to the trustees under the will of Admiral Sir George Rooke, for the benefit of his son George, who died in 1739 without issue, and his widow, Frances, alienated it to Mr. William Allen, of Canterbury, brewer, whose widow held it in Hasted's time. Of her it was purchased by the late Mr. Peckham, whose son, Mr. Richard Peckham, sold it to the Master and Wardens of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, its present proprietors.

CHILTON.

This manor is situated in a borough of its own name, which extends over the greatest part of the parish of Ash, comprehending all that portion of it from Goldston south and westward, the rest being in the borough of Overland.

The manor was held of the Archbishop of Canterbury, and the earliest notice we have as yet found of it is in the beginning of the reign of Henry III., when it appears to have been in the possession of a family deriving their name from it.

In the fourteenth year of that reign, a writ was issued to inquire whether it would be to the king's injury, or that of neighbouring traders, if the king granted to the Archbishop of Canterbury permission to hold a market on every Tuesday at his manor of Wingham. The first juror on the list of persons appointed to make this inquisition is Roger de Chilton, and the answer was that it would not be to

the injury of the king or of the neighbouring traders, but rather to their advantage; that the markets of Canterbury and Sandwich would be improved by the accession of traders coming to the said market of Wingham; and that on Tuesday there was no market it could possibly hurt, nor any nearer than twenty leagues, which was at Lenham. Some caution is necessary in our attempts to identify members of this family, as there are other Chiltons in Kent (one in Sittingbourne, another in the parish of St. Lawrance, Isle of Thanet), which may claim as their owners some of the persons of that name that we meet with in early documents;* but there is an extract from a charter, *sans* date, in the MS. collection marked "Kent," R. 27, Coll. of Arms, which we think we may, without hesitation, ascribe to this Roger, in which he names Robert, his father, and Goodhert, his mother; and Walter, John, and Theobald, his brothers. It is witnessed by Robert de *Gosehaule*, and Ralph his son; Theobald de Helle, and Thomas and John his sons; Peter de Cumbe, and Hamon, Adam, and Theobald, his sons. The names of these witnesses, all holding property in Ash and its immediate vicinity at the commencement of the thirteenth century, afford us all but positive evidence of the identity of this Roger de Chilton with the juror in the inquisition of the fourteenth of Henry III., and who

* Philipot says that the Chiltons of Sittingbourne were also owners of the manor of Chilton in Ash.—Vill. Cant. p. 311.

was probably the father of Simon de *Chiltune*, one of the jurors in an inquisition *post mortem* forty-seventh of Henry III., 1263, respecting the property of which Hamo de Crevecœur had died seized in that year, and son of the William de Chilton who held the manor in the reign of Edward I., and died in the thirty-first year of it.

By an escheat of that date, we find he left, by his wife Isabella, two daughters, Isabella and Sara, and died seized of Wending, Chilton, Rocking, and fifteen acres of pasture at Fleet, near Sandwich. We next find the manor in the possession of the family of Baude, William de Baude dying seized of it fourth of Edward III. This William de Baude had married Johanna, daughter of Johanna de Criol, by Sir Richard de Rokesly. This lady was directly descended from William d'Arques, through the families of Avranches and Crevecœur; and supposing Isabella and Sara, the coheiresses of William de Chilton, to have died unmarried or without issue, the manor might have passed to Johanna as one of the representatives of the Criols, with whom the Chiltons, we suspect, were connected. Her great-uncle, Alured de Criol, had a daughter named Isabella, of whose marriage we have no evidence, and who we are inclined to believe was the Isabella, wife of William de Chilton above mentioned. Sir William de Baude also was found cousin and heir to John de Criol, son of Bertram, and nephew of Alured, on the death of the said John without issue, thirtieth Edward I.

Sir Wm. de Baude died seized of Chilton fourth of Edward III.; from him it came to Thomas de Walton, who died possessed of it in the thirty-seventh year of the same reign; soon after which it was alienated to Sir William de Septvans, whose descendant Aphra, wife of John St. Ledger, Esq., sold it, in 1675, to George Thorpe, G.T.P., Prebendary of Canterbury, who bequeathed it, in 1716, with the manor of Chequer, to which it was then united, to the Master and Fellows of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, who still possess it. There are no remains of a manor-house, but there is a hamlet called Chilton on the north side of Ash-Street, consisting only of a few cottages, which are held of the above manor, now called of Chequer and Chilton. We gather from the deed of foundation of the college of Wingham, by Archbishop Peckham in 1286, that there were fields here at that time, known as Bradfelde, Brenthe, and Utlekre, which he gave to the canons of Wingham in common.

CHEQUER.

Chequer, written in ancient records Estchequer, is close to Molland and adjoining to Chilton. There was an ancient Kentish and Essex family of the name of Chequer, or de Scaccario (*i. e.* of the Exchequer), which they bore as hereditary ushers to the Court of Exchequer; and from them there can be little doubt this manor received its name. A Robert de Estchequer married Alice de Esley, now Easlin, in Feversham

hundred, in the time of Stephen, and their descendants held the manor of Addington, in Larkfield hundred, in the reigns of Edward II. and III. In the Court Rolls of the reign of John, we find Fulbert, of Dover, and Albinum de Scaccario, petitioners in a suit *versus* Adam de Taleworth and Henry Prepositus de Sandwich. Simon, son and heir of Roger de Scaccario, did homage for his lands fifty-fifth Henry III., and died without issue twentieth Edward I. His sister Lora married John Peyforer, whose family intermarried with that of Sandwich, and was connected collaterally with many of the principal landholders in Ash. By an escheat of thirty-first of Edward I., we find a "Radulphus de Chekker" married to Johanna, daughter and co-heiress of Salomon de Charmes, co. Kent. "Rogerus de Estcheker" is one of the hobilers or lighthorsemen appointed by William de Clinton, Earl of Huntingdon, John de Cobham, and Thomas de Aldon, to keep watch and ward in that part of the coast of Kent called the Genlade (*i. e.* Inlet) of Hoo, between Sandwich and Reculver (where now runs the Stour), in the eleventh of Edward III. We have not yet discovered the precise link of the connection by which the manor of Chequer, with those of Molland and Chilton, passed into the family of Sandwich; but all three were eventually carried by Anne, daughter and heir of Sir Nicholas de Sandwich, to that of Septvans, *alias* Harfleet, the later members of which, as we have already stated, frequently styled themselves *alias*

Chequer, or Atchequer. The name of Roger, common in that of De Scaccario, was preserved in the Harfleet family. Roger Harfleet, *alias* Roger Atchequer, one of the sons and heirs of Christopher Harfleet, *alias* Atchequer, conveyed all his lands and tenements in Ash to his brother Raymond, by a deed dated 3rd of May, twenty-fourth of Henry VII., A.D. 1509. He left an only daughter, Agnes, married to —— Stamble, of Ash. Previous to this period, however, the manor of Chequer had passed, either by marriage or purchase, to the family of Alday, one of whom, Thomas Alday, married Bennett, or Benedicta, daughter of Richard Exherst, of Ash, by Alice, daughter of Constance, widow of Gilbert Septvans, by her second husband, John Notbeam, of Ash. Jerome and Adam Alday, sons of Thomas and Alice, parted with their portion again to Raymond Harfleet, of Molland, and his son Thomas purchased another portion of it of the heirs of John Monins, Lieutenant of Dover Castle, who had acquired it by marriage with Margaret, daughter of Thomas Alday, of Chequer, by his wife Bennett Exherst, some part of the manor, however, still remaining with Monins; for by his will, proved 21st of January, 1554, he leaves to William, his son, all his right, part, and purport in the manor of Chequer, in Ash, and all his lands in that parish, in tail male.

Sir Thomas Harfleet, though resuming the name of Atchequer, continued to reside at Molland till his death in 1559. His great-grandson, Sir Chris-

topher, removed, as we have said, to Canterbury, where he died in 1662, and with Aphra Harfleet this estate passed, with the manor of Chilton, in marriage to John St. Ledger, and both were sold by them in 1695 to the Rev. George Thorpe, Prebend of Canterbury, who in 1716 bequeathed the manor of Chequer, *alias* Chequer and Chilton, to the Master and Fellows of Emmanuel College, as before stated.

HILLS COURT

is a manor adjoining that of Goshall, and took its first name from a family named Helles or Hilles, who possessed large estates in the neighbourhood of Darent and Dartford, in this county. Their wealth and influence probably were the result of the marriage of Theobald de Helles with Agnes, daughter of Gilbert, and sister of the celebrated Archbishop Thomas à Becket, by whom he had a son, named Thomas after his uncle. The Christian name of Theobald indeed, which we find continued in the family, is suggestive of a descent from, or connection with, a still earlier archiepiscopal stock—that of Hubert Walter, from whence the Botelers or Pincernas of Fleet, Eastry, and Herenden; but at present we have no proof to adduce of such a parentage. In the eighth of John, 1207, we have record of a suit against Manasser de Hastings, for some lands in Graveney, instituted by Adam de Helles, and his brothers Theobald and William. Bertram de Helles was Lieutenant of Dover Castle under Reginald de Cobham, Constable and

Lord Warden, thirty-ninth of Henry III.; and at the same period we find another Theobald de Helles, a juror associated with Roger de Chilton and William at Molland, in the inquisition respecting Wingham market, previously mentioned (page 83), where we have also spoken of a charter of Roger de Chilton, witnessed by this Theobald de Helles and two of his sons, Thomas and John; and we accordingly find a Thomas de Helles, or Hilles, in possession of this manor, and dying seized of it seventeenth of Edward I.; and in the sixth of Edward II., William and Thomas, sons of John de Helles, were in ward to Thomas, son of Thomas de Sandwich, by assignment of John de Malmaynes, their guardian by assignment of Robert de Dene, who was appointed by Robert, Archbishop of Canterbury, as being "*next of kin*, to whom their heritage could not come."* Sir Henry de Helles was knight of the shire for the county in the fourth parliament of Edward III. He was deceased in the ninth of that reign, 1337, leaving a widow named Margaret; † and Gilbert de Helles, of Hills Court, in Ash, and of St. Margaret Hills, in Darent, was Sheriff of Kent in the thirtieth of the same reign. Thomas and Allen de Helles witnessed a charter of Walter de

* His mother's name was apparently Alicia, as in a Plea Roll of the 47th of Henry III. we find "Alicia qui fuit uxor Theobaldi de Helles."

† Robert de Dene was son and heir of Radulph de Dene, by Sibilla, his wife, which Radulph was by birth a Pincerna or Butler, a fact which tends to corroborate our opinion that the family of De Helles were originally of that stock.

Goshall in 1348, and in the same family the manor continued down to the reign of King Edward IV., when, according to Hasted, it was alienated to Wroth, who held it till Henry VII.'s time; not long after which it appears to have come into the possession of the family of Slaughter; Mary, daughter of George Slaughter, of Ash, having brought it in marriage to Henry Harfleet, of Ash, gentleman, a younger son of Thomas at Chequer, alias Harflete; and he by his will, in 1608, left it to his eldest son Henry, who sold it to Edward Peke, son of Peter Peke, Esq., M.P. for Sandwich in the first and third parliaments of Charles I. His son, Thomas Peke, of Hills Court, Esq., died possessed of it in 1678, leaving, by Katharine his wife, daughter of William Kingsley, Archdeacon of Canterbury, four sons; the eldest of whom, Sir Edward Peke, Knight, resided at Hills Court, the manor of which is called in his father's will "Hill's Churchgate." By Elizabeth, daughter of Sir George Wentworth, Sir Edward Peke left issue three sons. Thomas Peke, of Hills Court, Esq., died in 1701, having married Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. Anthony Ball, by whom he had Edward Peke, Esq., who, after the death of his mother, who married secondly Robert Minchard, of Ash, succeeded to the property, and died without issue. His niece Anne, wife of Oliver Stephens, Esq., assigned the fee of this and other manors to Sir Francis Head, Bart., in 1750; and he, in 1760, alienated them to Peter Fector, Esq., of Dover, of whose son, John Minet Fector, Hills Churchgate and

other property was purchased by Mr. Thomas Coleman, of Gurson, senior, and re-sold by him to the late Marchioness Dowager of Conyngham. It is now the property of her ladyship's eldest son, the present marquis.

TWITHAM HILLS,

a manor a little to the north-west of Hills Court, belonged first to the same family of Helles or Hilles; but before the reign of Edward III. they had, according to Hasted, parted with their interest in it to the family of Twitham, from which it received its other name. We are much inclined to believe, however, that the family of Helles was the same as that of Twitham, a branch of it having assumed the latter name from the lands they held at Twitham, or Twittam, in the parish of Wingham.

An Alan de Twitham is recorded as having been with Richard I. at the siege of Acre; and there was a famous suit in the second of John, A.D. 1201, between Theobald de Twitham * and Thomas de Garwinton, concerning some lands in Ileden. Another Alan de Twitham was living in the reign of Edward II., who was succeeded by a Theobald de Twitham, whose heirs, a third Alan and a Hamo de Twitham, paid aid in the twentieth of Edward III., for one part of a knight's fee which Alan de Twitham had previously held in Twitham of the Archbishop of Canterbury. In the twenty-fifth

* Son of Hamo de Twitham.—Plea Roll 10th of John.

of that reign, 1353, there was an inquisition *post mortem*, when Alanus de Twitham, son of Theobald, son of Alanus Dominus de Twitham, was found to be heir, and five years old. In the fourth of Richard II., 1381, there was another inquisition to ascertain the holdings of this Alan Fitz Theobald de Twitham, when the jurors returned him as seized of Twitham manor, in the vill of Godneston juxta Wingham, Helles manor, in Ash juxta Wingham; six acres of land in Godneston, and an acre of meadow land, and half a rood of land in Ash. In the nineteenth and twentieth of Richard II., 1396—1397, there are other similar valuations of his property, but no proof of his death; nor have we found any further mention of him. He is said to have had a sister named Maud, eventually his heir, whom Harris and Hasted, following apparently Philipot in his "Villare Cantianum," p. 235, marry to Simon Septvans, a person of whose existence we have been unable to find any record on which we can safely rely, and who, according to Philipot's own statements, in his pedigree of the family in the College of Arms, MS. No. 26, wherein he is called Symkin, lived in the reign of Edward II., and was brother of Sir William Septvans, who is there made husband of Maud de Twitham. We accordingly find in some other places that Hasted has adopted the latter statement without noticing its contradiction of the former. In brief, all the old pedigrees of the Septvans are full of errors previous to the Heralds'

Visitations, which, unfortunately, commence too late to settle this point. As we shall have occasion to return to this subject in the fifth chapter of this volume, we will simply state here that, however derived, the manor of Twitham Hills remained in the family of Septvans till the reign of Edward IV., when it passed to that of Worth, who at the same time became owners of Hills Court; and from them to Slaughter, and by Mary, the daughter of George Slaughter, back to that of Septvans, then called Harfleet, as stated in our account of Hills Court; and after some intermediate owners to that of Elgar, whose descendant, Nathaniel Elgar, of Sandwich, gentleman, was the proprietor in Hasted's time. He died in 1795, when the manor devolved to S. Toomer, Esq., and then to the late Thomas Minter Tomlin, in whose family it still remains.

LEVERICKS

is a manor adjoining to Hills Court northward, and was anciently the residence of a knightly family of that name, and whose ancestors had been citizens and mayors of Sandwich. There is less known about the early history of this manor than of any other in the parish. The name of Leverick is, we think, a corruption of Leofric; but we find in early documents relating to this locality, the name of Libricus, and also of Eluricus, from either of which it might be derived. At the same time we are aware that there was an ancient Wiltshire family of the name

of Loveraz, eventually Loverick, as that of Sandwich is frequently spelt, and which, in Sir Richard Colt Hoare's history of that county, is said to be derived from Loveries, or Louveries, a place "either infested by wolves or an establishment for hunting them." As this is only an assumption on the part of Sir Richard, we shall merely observe that the ancestors of the Wiltshire family are nearly all called "*de* Loveraz," whereas those of the Sandwich Lovericks are in no instance preceded by the Norman "de."* A Solomon *Loveryk* is mentioned in a document printed by Boys, in his Collections for a History of Sandwich (p. 661), of the date of 1281. In 1306 (thirty-fourth of Edward I.) there was a Final Concord between John de Goshall and Henry *Luverick* and Margery his wife, respecting lands in Ash *juxta* Sandwich,† showing the connection of the family with this parish at least as early as the commencement of the fourteenth century. A John Loverick was mayor of Sandwich in 1346, and, according to a pedigree by Philipot, in the College of Arms, a Sir John Leverick, of Ash, married about this period Joan, daughter of John Septvans, of Bromhill; but

* The arms of Leverick of Carne, co. Dorset, are set down in Philipot's "Ordinary," page 94,—*Argent* on a chevron *Sable*, three leopards' faces *Or*, being the same as those attributed to the Levericks of Ash and Sandwich; but no authority is quoted, and, if not an error arising from similarity of name, it is just possible that the Leverick of Carne, whom we have not been able to identify, might be of the Kentish and not the Wiltshire family.

† Lansdown MS. 209, p. 293.

whether one and the same with the mayor or not we have at present no proof. Thomas Loveryck sat in Parliament for Sandwich in the forty-second of Edward III., 1368, and in the first of Richard II., 1377. This was probably the Thomas Loverick who gave, in 1370, to "Gilbert, son of John Septvans, of Cheker, in Ash," three acres of land in Ash.* Sir William Leverick, Knight, of Ash, a son or brother of this Thomas, married, according to Philipot, Emma, daughter of the John Septvans and sister of the Gilbert above mentioned. Sir William and Dame Emma are said to have been great benefactors to the church of St. Mary, Sandwich, by their liberal repair and restoration of it after it had been burned by the French in the reign of Richard II. They died in the following reign of Henry IV., and were buried in St. Mary's aforesaid. Another Thomas Loveryck was mayor of Sandwich in 1412 and 1416, and a Henry Leverick sat in Parliament for Sandwich, and was in possession of this manor in Ash in the seventh of Henry V. Amongst the Harleian Charters is one by Thomas Ramsey to Henry Loveryck and others, of lands in the parish of St. Dunstan's, Canterbury, dated first of Richard III., 1483; and at length we arrive at some genealogical data on which we can confidently rely. This Henry of Canterbury died in 1487, having married two wives,—first, Katharine, and, second, Elizabeth, who survived him.

* *Vide* Chapter V., under "Septvans."

He had issue two daughters,—Susannah, a nun in Sheppey, mentioned in her father's will, and Johanna, who was living in 1475, but who is not named in it, and probably died before him. This Henry had a sister, Johanna, married to William Manston, whom she survived, and died in 1475. Her will was proved by her brother Thomas, and she mentions in it Anthony and Henry Leverick, her brothers; John the son of Anthony, and Johanna daughter of Henry, as we have stated above. Anthony Leverick, of Herne, Esq., had by his wife Constantia,* besides his son John, living in 1475, an only daughter, named Pernel, who seems to have been eventually his heir, and carried this manor of Leverick, in Ash, eighteenth of Henry VII., 1503,† to her husband, Edward Monins, of Waldershare, Esq., who joined with his wife in the sale of it to one of the family of Peke, of Sandwich, from whom it descended to Edward Peke, the purchaser of Hills Court. His son, Thomas Peke, of Hills Court, Esq., who died in 1678, speaks in his will of his manor or lordship of Hill's Churchgate, and his manor or lordship of *Liveroches*, with their royalties, rents, and services, and the capital mansion-house, buildings, lands, marshes, and woods to them belonging, in Ash. From the Pekes the

* "Daughter and heir of Turberville," according to one pedigree of Monins (Pingo, 1 Coll. of Arms); but in another (Philipot, 26, 27), "d. of Woolbright," who bore "Argent, three roses gules."

† Anthony Leverick of Herne died October 16th, 1510.—Monumental inscription, Herne Church—"Tour in Thanet."

property passed, as stated at page 91, from Stephens, to Sir Francis Head, and from him to Peter Fector, of Dover, of whose son, John Minet Fector, lord of the manor in 1839, it was purchased, together with Hills Court and Goshall, by Mr. Thomas Coleman, senior, of Guston, and sold, with the other property, to the late Marchioness Dowager of Conyngham; all of which has now passed by her ladyship's will to her eldest son, the present marquis.

WEDDINGTON,

says Hasted, "was formerly accounted a manor, though it has long since lost the reputation of having been one." We have no account of its possessors previous to the thirteenth century; from which period down to the reign of Charles I. it appears to have remained in the family of Hougham, a knightly race, taking their name from the manor of Hougham, Huffam, or Hicham, as it is spelt in Domesday, near Dover. In Hicham, or Hougham, a suling of land was held in the Conqueror's reign by one Baldwin; but whether an ancestor of this family or not, we cannot pretend to say.

The parish of Hougham was part of the lands given by the Conqueror to Fulbert de Lucy, called "of Dover," for the defence of Dover Castle, and therefore in the Barony of Fulbert, as it was called, of which Chillam Castle was the chief seat, or *caput baroniæ;* and we consequently find Hougham held by knight's service in the time of Edward III. A

Robert de Hougham was one of the Kentish knights with Richard I. at the siege of Acre, and is the earliest at present known of the owners of that manor. His son, of the same name, died seized of it in the forty-first of Henry III., and his son, a third Robert de Hougham, who died in the second of Edward I., held it, together with the office of Constable of Rochester Castle. A fourth Robert de Hougham died twenty-ninth of Edward I., and a fifth in the eleventh of Edward III., leaving two daughters his coheirs,—Benedicta, married to John de Shelving, and Matilda, wife of Waretius or Warin de Valoignes, the latter of whom became possessed of Hougham on the division of the inheritance. He also left two daughters and coheirs, Joan, married to Sir Thomas Fogg, of Repton Ashford, and Matilda, to Thomas de Aldelyn, or Aldon. Which of these Roberts de Hougham was the first who owned Weddington, or how it came into the possession of that family, neither Philipot nor Hasted seems to have discovered; but the former tells us that the arms of Hougham Argent, five chevronels sable, was borne by them in token of their holding under the family of Avranches, Lords of Folkestone, who bore Or, five chevronels gules, such being a common practice in the early ages of heraldry; the family of Evering in like manner bearing Argent, five chevronels azure, either to mark their descent from, or feudal connection with, the same Lords of Folkestone. It is therefore probable that the Houghams, although named from a

manor which they held of the honor of Dover or Chillam, were collateral descendants of the family of Avranches, or connected with it by marriage. The position of Weddington favours this assumption, for it is adjacent to the lands we know were part of the Barony of Folkestone, and in the tenure of Ruellinus d'Avranches in the twelfth century. According to one account, the Ash branch of the family descended from Richard de Hougham, brother of the Robert whose coheirs married with Valoignes and Shelving.* He had a son Simon, who had a son Robert, said to have died in Ash. His son was called Robert of Elmston, and his son, William Hougham, resided at Weddington at the beginning of the reign of Henry VIII. By Elizabeth his wife he had Solomon, described as "holding many lands in the hundred of Wingham," whose son Stephen died in 1555, having married Bennett, daughter of John Brooke, of Brooke-street, Ash, and eventual heir of her nephew John, whose singular epitaph is one of the curiosities in Ash church. Their son, Michael Hougham, had a son Richard, who marrying Elizabeth, daughter of Edward Sanders, of Norborne, their descendants are said by Hasted to have assumed the arms of Sanders; viz., Or,

* "Robert de Hugham," the fourth of the name, father of this Richard and Robert, is named in the Placita de quo Warranto as one of the jurats, 21st of Edward I., in conjunction with Robert de Ashe, John de Goshall, Adam de Twytham, Richard de Pimpe, and Henry de Schorne (*vel* Thorne), all persons of importance in this parish, either from residence in or connection with it.

on a chevron between three elephants' heads gules, as many mullets argent. Mr. Streatfield, however, in a note on this passage, remarks: "I doubt very much whether, after all, it was the coat of Sanders, which the Houghams seem to have had no right even to quarter, and which are described (copy of Visitation, B. F.) as parti per chevron, argent and sable, three elephants' heads counterchanged; totally different arms, it will be seen, to those given above." And in another note he suggests that the coat was an allusive one to that of Sanders, as "it is probable the heralds would not allow the ancient coat of Hougham, for want of an unbroken chain of evidence of descent." The branch of the Houghams which remained at St. Martin's, Canterbury, certainly retained their ancient family arms; but their other coat, whether that of Sanders or not, was borne by the Houghams of Ash long previous to the marriage of Richard and Elizabeth Sanders, as we shall show in Chapters IV. and V. Michael Hougham, son of the above Richard and Elizabeth, resided at Weddington, and dying in the reign of Charles I., was buried with his ancestors in the south transept of Ash church. He left by Margaret, daughter of William Courthope, of Stodmarsh, Esq., and Mildred, daughter of Christopher Harfleet, *alias* Septvans, of Molland, a son named William, whose descendants settled in London, and Weddington, after passing through several hands, was finally purchased by the Garrets of Thanet, and was in the possession of Mr.

John Garret in the time of Hasted. At the end of a copy of the "Villare Cantianum," formerly belonging to Mr. J. Warburton, Somerset Herald, was pasted, however, a manuscript memorandum by Francis Hougham, only surviving son of the last William, stating that his aunt (*i. e.* his great-aunt) Anne left his father executor, and the estate to his (Francis's) younger brother Michael; and in case he died, it was to go to the next youngest of the children of William, "which was I, Francis Hougham, only son left; and I, by my last will, do give it to my son Gervase Hougham; but I find that my father has mortgaged it for ninety-nine years, and that it is impossible it can come to me; so I have made this memorandum of it, that my son Gervase may have it notwithstanding. I believe it is now (1717) about sixty years since the date. It lies in the parish of Ashe. It was in the hands of a Mr. Wills as tenant. The mortgage was to one Mr. Robinson, and he gave it to . . . . . who married one Admiral Davis; and since I cannot tell any further. There has been an acknowledgment in the Court of Chancery from them to me, that it does belong to me, about the year 1685-6-7, as Mr. Hardisty, of Essex Street, and Mr. Bourne (of Lincoln's Inn), do affirm to me, for they were the lawyers concerned for me."—Signed "Francis Hougham." "He was, according to Guillim" (adds Mr. Streatfield, to whose MSS. we are indebted for this little piece of family history), "a citizen and painter-stainer, and bore the ancient coat of the family." We shall have more to say on this subject in Chapter V.

WINGHAM BARTON,

lying at the north-west extremity of this parish, about half a mile from the river Stour, seems to have been a parcel of the ancient possessions of the see of Canterbury; and when Archbishop Peckham founded the college of Wingham, in 1286, he endowed it with all his archiepiscopal tithe "de la Berton," meaning this manor, which thenceforth was called Wingham Barton, to distinguish it from other manors named Barton, which simply means a farm. Who were the sub-tenants at that period, and during the following century, we have not been able as yet to discover; but early in the fifteenth century there was a family residing here called from it At Berton or Barton. Margaret, daughter of Thomas Septvans, *alias* Harfleet, married Walter Barton, of Wingham Barton; and Johanna, daughter of Lawrence St. Nicholas, *temp.* Henry IV., married first, "Salam (or Solomon) att Berton," and secondly, Richard Finneux. Another Johanna, sister of Margaret Septvans above named, married Thomas Finneux, ancestor of Judge Finneux, whose daughter, by a second wife, married the ancestor of Sir Dudley Diggs, whose descendants we eventually find renting a portion of the land here. The manor appears to have remained the property of the see of Canterbury until the reign of Henry VIII., when it passed to the Crown. Edward VI., in the fourth year of his reign, gave the ancient manor-house to Sir Anthony St. Ledger, Kt.; but the manor itself continued Crown property until

Queen Elizabeth granted it to Sir Roger Manwood, of Hackington, near Canterbury, Chief Baron of the Exchequer, a person in great favour with the queen and her ministers, and founder of the free school at Sandwich, of which town his father, Thomas Manwood, was a draper; "a goodly and pleasant gentleman, and one that was had in good account there." * At this period the leases of Wingham Barton marshes were held by Thomas Diggs, Esq.; and the Chief Baron, Sir Roger Manwood, sought to deprive him of them, as we are told, "most unconscionably, and by subtil and cunning practices, and extreme rigour of the law; nor could he come to any conclusion with him but to his loss, £1,000 at the least, besides the great charge of the suit many ways, by the unjust vexation of the tenants."

Sir Peter Manwood, son of Sir Roger, passed the manor away, by his trustees, at the latter end of the reign of James I., to Sir William Courtenay, of London, Kt., who gave it in marriage with his daughter Mary to Henry Grey, Earl of Kent; and he, at his death in 1651, ordered it to be sold to discharge some debts, which was accordingly done by his widow and second wife, Arabella, to Mr. James Thurbarne, of Sandwich, whose son, John Thurbarne, Esq., Serjeant-at-law, leaving an only daughter and heir, Joan, she carried it in marriage to Colonel Edward Rivett, 1690; and her son by him, named John, sold it, in

* Boys's Collections, p. 245.

1750, to Josiah Farrer, of Doctors' Commons, together with the site of Richborough Castle, for the sum of £6,812; and his son, Josiah Fuller Farrer, alienated both to Peter Fector, Esq., of Dover, in 1761.* The mansion or manor-house remained, however, the property of the St. Ledger family from the time of Edward VI., who granted it to Sir Anthony St. Ledger, until that of Charles I., when another Sir Anthony St. Ledger sold it to Mr. Vincent Denne, of Wenderton in Wingham, who gave it to his nephew, Mr. Thomas Denne, of Gray's Inn. He bequeathed it to his brother John Denne, of the Inner Temple, Esq., who dying without issue, it was sold by his sisters to Mr. Robert Beake, of Sapperton in Wingham, husband of their cousin Bridget, third daughter of Vincent Denne. Mr. Thomas Beake, of Wickham Breus, was the possessor of it in Hasted's time; and it still remains in that family.

* A place called Keyt Marsh is mentioned as parcel of this manor in the will of Christopher Nevinson, proved 11th Sept., 1551, and Michael Huffam of Ash, in his will, proved Dec. 10th, 1583, bequeaths to his son Stephen his "lands lying *below the Kete*, in the said parish, being marsh." We have not succeeded in discovering the character or locality of "the Kete," the name of which seems to be no longer remembered here.

View of Ash from Mount Ephraim.

CHAPTER III.

PERAMBULATION OF THE PARISH.

HAVING traced, as far as it is in our power now to do, the descent of the manors in Ash from the time of the Conquest to the present day, we will proceed with the general history and description of the parish, including that portion of it which has been recently constituted a separate Ecclesiastical District, namely, Westmarsh, by order of Council, June 20, 1849. Its extent, previous to that separation, was about four miles from east to west, and rather more than three from north to south. The northern boundary is the river Stour, which divides it from the Isle of Thanet. On the west are the parishes of Stourmouth, Elmstone, and Wingham. On the south those of Staple and Woodnesborough, the latter of which wraps round it also on the east, crossing the

high road to Sandwich near Each-end gate, from whence the line of demarcation runs on the further side of East Street across the marshes till it again encounters the winding Stour a short distance below Richborough.

This area contains, according to the latest calculation, 7,028 acres,* a considerable portion of which is marsh. Hasted says, that in his day the land let, taking one description of it with the other, at £1 per acre per annum. The average price is now, however, nearly £2. 10s., and some portions have recently brought £3. 10s. per acre.

The parish is situate in the lower half-hundred of Wingham, and a small part of an isolated portion of Downhamford hundred, in the diocese and archdeaconry of Canterbury, the deanery of Bridge, the lathe of St. Augustine, and Eastry union, East Kent. It contains two boroughs—Chilton and Overland—and was divided in the thirteenth century into three distinct parsonages or tytheries, the first comprising the rectories or parsonages of Ash, usually called Guilton Town; the second that of Overland, late belonging to Wingham College; and the third that of Goldston, parcel of the possessions of St. Gregory's Priory, Canterbury.

The church of Ash was originally a chapel of ease to that of Wingham, but on the foundation of the college there by Archbishop Peckham, in 1286, it was

* Census 1861.

made a distinct parish church, and then given to the college, with the chapels of Overland and Fleet (or Richborough) in this parish, and appertaining to this church, which, becoming thus appropriated to the college of Wingham, continued with it till the suppression of that establishment in the reign of Edward VI., when this rectory or parsonage appropriate with the advowson of the church of Ash came, with the rest of the possessions of the college, into the hands of the Crown. Edward VI., in the third year of his reign, granted a lease for twenty-one years to Henry Manning, of "the king's rectory of Ash, and the chapels of Overland and Richborough, with their appurtenances, late belonging to or arising from the chapels of Ash, Overland, and Richborough, and in the vills of the same, to the said rectory belonging (excepting the portion belonging to the Provost of Wingham, at Overland aforesaid, and 20 quarters of barley, to be delivered yearly to Sir Anthony Aucher, Kt., in right of the late priory of Folkestone), and also the mansion called the Vicarage House, and the advowson of the parish church of Ash, to hold at the yearly rent of £54. 10s.; and the king covenanted to save the tenant harmless, and particularly in a rent of ten shillings, issuing out of the said premises to the late priory of St. Sepulchre there (*i.e.* at Folkestone) to Sir James Hales, Kt., yearly. The king to allow rough timber for the repair of the chancel and buildings, which the tenant was to repair."

It appears, however, that at the time of the appropriation of the church of Ash to Wingham, in 1286, there was a vicarage endowed here, the advowson of which did not go with the rectory to Manning, and was at the time of the suppression esteemed a perpetual curacy.

This advowson was granted by Queen Mary in the sixth year of her reign, A.D. 1558, to the Archbishop of Canterbury and his successors; and in the third year of Queen Elizabeth, 1561, the rectory or parsonage appropriate of Ash with its chapels, since called Guilton parsonage from the hamlet of Guilton, in which the house and barns belonging to it are situate, was granted by that sovereign to Archbishop Parker; when, with the chapels of Overland and Richborough, the annual value was £54. 10s., reprises to the archdeacon 7s. 6d., and to the curate £16. 13s. 4d., — the patronage of the perpetual curacy remaining vested in the see of Canterbury.

At the valuation of the rent-charges under the Tythe Commutation Act, the gross value of the great tythes was fixed at £3,333 per annum, subject to a fine to the archbishop on renewal and payment to the perpetual curate of Ash. In 1836 the whole property of the see of Canterbury passed into the hands of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, by whom, after the expiration of the present leases, granted in 1856, they will probably not be renewed.

The present lessees are F. P. Delmé Ratcliffe, Esq.,

Charles Delmar, Esq., Messrs. Painter & Oldfield, Mr. Simmons, and the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. The present lessees of Overland and Goldston are Messrs. James Petley and the heirs of Mr. Castle.

Other matters relating to the church and its chantries, with the succession of incumbents, the chapels of Overland, Fleet, &c., will be found in the chapter dedicated especially to the edifice itself, and in our notice of particular localities during our perambulation, which we will now commence in company with the reader.

Entering the parish from the west by the high road which passes through Wingham from Canterbury to Sandwich, we see immediately on our right the large farm of Pedding, pleasantly situated in the valley below. A family taking its name from this place is mentioned as early as the time of Henry III. In a fine-roll of the fifty-third of that king's reign, A.D., 1270, the sheriff of Kent is informed that Thomas de Pedding, Roger son of Nicholas de Pedding, Stephen son of John de Pedding, and Robert his brother, with others, have paid half a mark for a brief to the next term. A John de Pedding witnesses a charter of Henry de Goshall, eighth Edward I., and a Peter de Pedding one of Walter, son of Henry de Goshall, dated 12th January, twentieth Edward III. Before the end of the following century it had passed, probably by marriage, into the family of Solly, one

Map of
THE
PARISH of ASH.
PLATE 3.
W. G. Smith. Lith.
Plack's Gutter
Stourmouth
Stonar Sluice
Richboro
Guston
Potts Farm
Sparrow Castle
Lower Goldstone
Upper Goldstone
Sandhills
Barton
Ware
Housden
Sheerwater
Down Field
Colket
Hoden
Nell
Wedington
Cop St.
Brook St.
Look House
Lowton
Goss Hall Sluice
Reed Pond
To Sandwich
To Deal
Twitham Hill
East St.
Goss Hall
Hills Court
Crackstake
Chequers Court
Malland
Nash
Guilton
Mills
Parsonage
Green Man
Durlock
Pedding
Durlock Bridge
Poulton
Goodnestone
To Staple
Collar Makers Hole
New St.
Mt. Ephraim
Hound Pits
To Woodnesborough
Each House
From Elmstone
From Warmstone
From Preston
From Canterbury
ASH
ISLE
RIVER STOUR
SOUTH EASTERN RAILWAY
STONAR
WOODNESBOROUGH
STAPLE
WINGHAM
ELMSTONE
PRESTON

of whom named Stephen possessed it in the reign of Henry VII. This Stephen, called "Stephen Solly the elder," married (*circa* 1509, according to the tradition of the family) "the daughter of Thomas Harflete;" but we have not been able to identify this Thomas in the Harfleet pedigree. It is possible it may have been the "Thomas Harflete of Staple," a near neighbour, whose will is dated 1493; but he only mentions his wife Isabella, and his place in the pedigree is not yet ascertained.* From the son of Stephen Solly the elder, named after his father, and who married in 1547 Elizabeth, daughter of Stephen Hugham, by Benedicta, or Bennett, Brooke, the descent of the Sollys of Ash, Sandwich, and London, as far as this inquiry is concerned, is perfectly clear. John Solly, of Wingham, great-grandson of the younger Stephen, died before his father,† and left Pedding to *his* son Stephen, and it remained in that branch of the family till 1748, when it was sold to the Very Rev. John Lynch, dean of Canterbury,

* We reserve the discussion of this and other similar points of family history for our Fifth Chapter, which being purely genealogical need only be consulted by those who take a deeper or more antiquarian interest in our researches.

† In his (John's) will, proved October 8th, 1661, he states that, whereas he had a right and title to the reversion, after the death of his father, Mr. Stephen Solley (the name is still so spelt by some of the family), of and in a messuage and lands commonly called Pedding, in Ash, he wills the same, after his wife Margaret's death, to his eldest son Stephen and his heirs for ever. This lady appears to have survived her husband forty-nine years, being buried at Ash, 1710, aged 80. He was buried at Ash 29th August, 1661.

whose son, Sir William Lynch, K.B., at his death in 1785, left it to his wife, Lady Lynch, who possessed it in Hasted's time.

It is now the property of J. P. Plumtre, of Fredville, Esq., late M.P. for Canterbury, and the residence of his nephew, Charles Plumtre, Esq. The house has been considerably enlarged by its present owner; but much of the old building remains, and presents us with several interesting features of the brickwork of the sixteenth century. In the upper part of the house is an oaken partition, with the initials carved on it of various members of the Solly family—viz., S. S.: E. S.: I. S.: F. S.: M. S.: R. S.: J. S.: S. S.: T. S.: and part of the letter E.; also the initials W. C., with the date 1662. These letters correspond with the initials of eight of the nine children of the John Solly of Wingham before-mentioned. Their names were Stephen, Elizabeth, John, Francis, Mary, Richard, Susan, and Thomas. This leaves another I. or J. S. to be accounted for, and the imperfect E. His ninth child, according to the family pedigree, had the name of her mother Margaret. The initials W. C. are most probably those of the carver, as they are apart from the others, and also occur on another piece of ornamental woodwork in Ash, which we shall presently have occasion to mention.

The summit of the hill beyond Pedding is nearly, if not quite, the highest ground in the parish, and from thence an extensive view is obtained on the

left of the Isle of Thanet, the sea and the cliffs of Ramsgate, Minster and its fine old church, Monckton, St. Nicholas, and the Reculvers; and on the right the valley of Staple, with the villages of Staple and Addisham, the new station near the latter of the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway, Barham Downs, and the woods of Goodnestone Park, the seat of Sir Brook Bridges, Bart., M.P.

In front the spire of Ash church rises above the trees and hamlet of Guilton. A little lane, now called Sandy Lane, but in early documents Black Lane, steals down into the valley on the right behind Guilton to the hamlet of Durlock, and its bridge over Wingham brook, a streamlet which, rising immediately below Ash church, runs through the valley of Staple, and forms part of the southern boundary of our parish.

A little further on our left we pass the branch road to Elmstone and Grove Ferry, and arrive at Guilton, or Guilton-town, as it is usually called, the house known as Guilton Parsonage,* or the Rectory, confronting us on the right as we turn the corner, embowered amongst some fine old limes at the junction of the high road from Wingham, with Durlock Lane leading to the village of Staple. The house, built apparently at the beginning of the seven-

* *Vide* p. 109, *ante.* In the earliest Cess Book of this parish, we find amongst the accounts of "uncollected averages" for the year 1601 : "Daniel Prior, uncollected for his part of the parsonages 10s. 4d. ;" and in 1604, the same Daniel Prior, "for his part of the parsonage of Ash, and the parsonage of Gregories 10s."

teenth century, has been considerably altered by successive occupants. Sir Francis Clarke resided here in 1634, and was succeeded by Sir Matthew Mennes in 1639-40.* It was afterwards the residence of the Minchards, and in 1713 of the venerated founder of the charity school of Ash, Gervase Cartwright, who, in conjunction with his two sisters, Eleanor and Anne, in 1720-21, gave an estate of the value of £50 per annum for the teaching of fifty poor children to read and write, which land is vested in the minister and churchwardens of Ash for the time being and other trustees.†

His gentle-hearted sisters, who are said to have died of grief for the loss of their beloved brother, also gave £100 for beautifying the chancel of Ash church, and the purchase of two pieces of plate for the communion service. Captain Brett, R.N., died here in 1769, and was succeeded by Mr. Robert le Grand.‡ The lease of the tythery was purchased by

* Hasted says in 1643; "but the first assessment of Sir Matthew Mennes for the parsonage was in 1639-40."—Cess Book of Ash, *sub anno.*

† Amongst the parish muniments is the release of Margaret Harflete of Empham, in the parish of Wingham, to Gervase Cartwright, of the City of London, merchant, of the messuages, lands, and premises, afterwards bequeathed by him to the parish of Ash. The date of the release is 1673, and she is joined in the act with John St. Ledger, of Doneraile, in the kingdom of Ireland, and Aphra his wife; the parties on the other side being Sir Arnold Braems, of Bridge, co. Kent, Knight, and John Thurbarne, of Sandwich, Esq.

‡ In the parish registers are the following entries of marriages:—George le Grand, of St. Andrews, Canterbury, to Anne Hayward of

Mr. Michael Becker, of Dover, in or about the year 1792, and after his death the property was divided amongst his five children; and the Rectory is at present occupied by Charles Delmar, Esq., who married one of the daughters and coheirs.

Entering the hamlet, the eye of the antiquary is arrested by an old Flemish-looking gable-ended building, with a small arched porch before its door. This is also said to have been the residence of Gervase Cartwright previous to his occupation of the Parsonage. It is now called the School Farm, being part of the estate bequeathed by Mr. Cartwright as above mentioned. Nearly opposite is Guilton Farm, the land of which is in the occupation of T. Mayhew, of Sevenscore, in the Isle of Thanet, Esq., the house being the residence of Mrs. Austin Gardner. On the wall at the back is a curious old sundial.

Immediately beyond on the right is Guilton Mill, marking the locality of that great Anglo-Saxon cemetery which has given to this little hamlet a world-wide celebrity amongst antiquaries.

It is exactly one hundred years ago since the Rev. Bryan Faussett, of Heppington, commenced his excavations here. During the years 1760, 1762, and 1763, he opened no less than a hundred and six tumuli and graves, and obtained from them a large proportion of that valuable collection of antiquities

Ash, May 7th, 1767; and John Hunter, M.D., of St. James's, Westminster, to Elizabeth le Grand, of Guilton, Ash, July 30th, 1784.

now in the possession of Mr. Meyer, of Liverpool, who liberally purchased the whole after it had been neglected by the antiquaries of Kent, and declined by the authorities of the British Museum. Mr. Bryan Faussett died in 1776, and his successor in these researches was the Rev. James Douglas, the author of the now rather scarce work, "Nenia Britannica."

In 1783 Mr. Douglas opened a group of barrows in the parish of Ash, and the result of his researches will be found in the volume above mentioned. The late Mr. Rolfe, of Sandwich, also more recently extracted some beautiful and interesting relics from this locality, and an account of them by Mr. Charles Roach Smith is published in the 30th volume of the Archæologia, or "Transactions of the Society of Antiquaries in London," p. 132, accompanied by engravings of the principal articles. The last excavations at Guilton were made in 1858 by Mr. Ingram Godfrey, of Brooke House, and the Rev. Henry S. Mackarness, the present incumbent of Ash, on the occasion of the demolition of two mills out of the three which formerly stood there. The only result was the discovery of an iron spear-head, exceedingly corroded, and a small tazza of Samian ware.

It is needless for us here to recite the conflicting opinions of Mr. Faussett and Mr. Douglas, or to do more than allude to a controversy which later authorities have pretty nearly settled. It is only since more critical attention has been paid to the subject

by the late Lord Londesborough, Mr. Thomas Wright, Mr. C. R. Smith, and other modern antiquaries, that we have been enabled to state with tolerable certainty that, although indications of Roman or British-Romano interments may be traced, the majority of the relics discovered at Guilton are those of pagan Anglo-Saxons, from the beginning of the fifth to the middle of the seventh century.

We have already (page 27) spoken of the tradition of the Golden Idol, and expressed our conviction that the ancient Guildenton was a place of religious as well as political importance in the early days of Jutish dominion, the reigns of King Ash and his Ashelings. Whether more discoveries may yet be made in this interesting spot or its neighbourhood, which has not been half explored, it is impossible to say; but the probabilities are greatly in favour of it, and our hopes are now centred in the council of the Kentish Archæological Society, whose attention, we understand, has been specially directed Ashward, and who propose to commence their labours at Richborough.

A lane on our left, as we leave Guilton, leads to the old manor-houses of Molland and Chequer, the seat of the Septvans, *alias* Harfleets; but little remains of either to recall to us even the times of the Tudors, much less of the period when their knightly owners sallied forth "in complete steel," at the summons of their lord the king, to join him at Sandwich and swell the gallant hosts that mustered there for

the conquest of Bretagne or the protection of Poitou.* The cellars beneath Molland are probably the only remains of that mansion which the heiress of Sir Nicholas de Sandwich brought in marriage to John de Septvans, and whose son Gilbert is said to have assumed the name of Harfleet in commemoration of some achievements under the fifth Harry at Harfleur. We have elsewhere expressed our doubts concerning this tradition; but, be the truth as it may, neither the gallant lieutenant of John Lord Grey of Codnore, who "saw young Harry with his beaver on" at that celebrated siege, nor his cousin John, the esquire of the body to King Henry VI., whose fine effigy in armour is in the Molland chancel, could ever have looked upon any portion of the comfortable farm-house which now presents itself at the end of an avenue of limes, once, according to tradition, extending to the church.

Christopher Harfleet, who succeeded to the property in 1559, was probably the builder of the present edifice, for we find here his arms, with those of his wife, Mercy Hendley, in painted glass, dated 1561; also those of his father Thomas, and his grandfather Raymond (*vide* Chapter V.). These shields of arms were formerly in the old parlour windows. Four were removed in 1831 to a staircase window, where

* In 1342, Edward III. sailed from Sandwich with a considerable fleet and army to obtain possession of the duchy of Bretagne for John de Montfort, and in 1372 he collected there a force of 3,000 lancers and 10,000 archers, by summoning all men to come ready armed to Sandwich, and other parts, in order to save Thouars and the rest of Poitou.—Rymer's Fœdera. Walsingham.

those of Thomas and Raymond have been inserted topsy-turvy. A fifth, sadly mutilated and put together "anyhow," has been let into a small fanlight over the back parlour door. On a piece in the staircase window can still be read "C. Septuans aīs Harflete & Ma-rcie filia T. Hend . . . . . armigeri 1561." A similar inscription is legible over the shield in the fanlight; Philipott says, with this motto:—"Dissipabo inimicos Regis mei ut paleam"—"I will disperse the enemies of my King like chaff," in allusion to the wheat-screens or fans for winnowing corn in the arms of the Septvans; but this is not at present to be seen. The preservation of this glass, even in this dilapidated state, is, however, of considerable importance, as in a work entitled "The Topographer and Genealogist,"* it is stated that a *grant* of arms to Christopher Septvans, *alias* Harflete, by Robert Cooke Clarenceux, dated 1574, was in the possession of Mr. Thomas Jull, of Molland. It is clear, therefore, from the date in the glass, that this was not a grant, but a confirmation of the arms borne by Christopher in 1561, and engraved on his monumental brass in Ash church.† The family ceased to reside here in 1662, when Sir Christopher Harfleet, grandson of the Christopher just mentioned, removed to Canterbury. Since that time even the house has undergone considerable and repeated alterations by various tenants, particularly by the late Mr. Austin Gardner, in 1831, and, with the exception of the staircase, a

* Vol. iii. p. 286.

† *Vide* Chapter IV.

porch over a bricked-up door, and the painted glass aforesaid, there are few noticeable remains of the domestic architecture or ornament of the sixteenth or even of the seventeenth century. The ample cellars, with their massive oaken joists and uprights, might be of still earlier date; but there is nothing to verify the conclusion. The garden retains some characteristic features of the old formal style of laying out which immediately preceded the "landscape gardening" of the present century, and the pleasing effect of the church tower terminating the vista in front of the house makes one still more regret the demolition of that once noble avenue.

Chequer Court, which stands some quarter of a mile further down the lane, in a more sequestered position, and is approached by what has been a fine avenue of poplars, but of which only those on the right remain, has undergone less alteration than Molland but cannot boast of much greater antiquity. The moat that defended the old manorial mansion of Estchequer, when Henry de Goshall went a-wooing to Margaret de Sandwich, still encircles the garden in which they may have wandered; but the bridal procession of that lady fair never issued from the embattled porch, which, bristling with wooden cannon, is now, thank heaven, only needed to protect the occupier or visitor from a cutting wind or a pelting shower.

The previous building, however, could not have been much larger, as no traces of old foundations

have ever been met with, nor are there any indications of the present edifice having suffered demolition or important exterior alteration since its first erection, which we should certainly not be inclined to date earlier than the sixteenth century. The interior has been gradually modernized by its successive inhabitants, and no stained glass is remaining, as at Molland. A gateway fronting the house, where the moat is passed by a little bridge, was, with the stables and outhouses adjoining it, destroyed by fire some thirty years ago; but we are informed that it possessed no distinctive character or ornamentation which would enable us to arrive at a nearer conclusion respecting the age of the house than we can under the present circumstances. Beyond Chequer Court is Nell, anciently Elmes, an appendage formerly of the manor of Goldston, and sometimes called Lee, from being the seat of the Leyghes in Edward III.'s time, as we have already stated in our notice of the manor of Goldston (page 69). The old house has been very recently pulled down and an entirely new one built at some distance from its site. Whether the name of Elmes may have been derived from the forest of elms which formerly existed here we will not venture to say; but immense numbers have been felled in this neighbourhood within the remembrance of the present generation, and agricultural interests are at this moment enforcing the continuation of the havoc, which we fear will only cease with the fall of the last of these beautiful old trees, still, for a few hundred yards, making a

perfect bower of this lane during "the leafy month of June," and rendering it one of the most agreeable walks in the parish.

As there is no other point of interest in this lane between Nell and Warehorn, through which we shall have to pass anon, we will now retrace our steps to the high road and enter the village of Ash, or Ash Street, which commences at the mile-stone at the corner of this lane, under a high bank and group of trees sheltering Rose Hill Cottage, a small modern erection, now the property of Mr. W. L. Jordan.

The village, which has gradually arisen under the shadow of its church, and by the side of the high road or street (the Roman *stratum*, the British *strad*) to Sandwich,* straggles over the brow of a hill which skirts the southern boundary of the parish, and sinks almost suddenly behind the churchyard into the valley of Staple.

Except the church (a description of which we reserve for an especial chapter), there is no building of any description remaining in it which can pretend to an earlier date than the 17th century, save and except the Chequer Inn, which stands at the corner of the lane leading to Cop Street, and has probably undergone less alteration than any other house in the parish.

* Though *street* is used for road in many parts of England, it is particularly so in Kent, where it is applied to any lane or highway, running through a village, as will be observed in passing through this parish. To go "up" or "down street," is the usual phrase for an excursion into the village.

"The Chequers" (plural) is so common a sign for an inn, that were it not for the lords of Chequer in Ash, its designation might have passed unnoticed. There can be no doubt, however, that in this instance the inn is so named from the manor of Chequer, and may formerly have displayed the arms of the family of Septvans, *alias* Atchequer. That it was originally an inn, however, we will not undertake to say. The probabilities are against it. The earliest mention of it as an inn that we have been able to discover is as recent as 1707, when, from the vestry books, we gather that it was kept by John Beall. As the house must at that time have been at least two hundred years old, it is quite possible it may have been part of Chilton manor-house or court, this particular portion of the village being in the manor, as it is now called, of Chequer and Chilton.

The road, of which it forms the western corner, is sometimes called Vicarage Lane, as a few yards beyond the Chequer stands the Vicarage, a very small portion of which is of any considerable age, alterations and additions having been made by various incumbents. In the cellar, on a beam, however, we find the initials A. H., and the date 1655, at which period it is probable the old house was built. It was purchased as late as 1813, with some land belonging to it, and enlarged in order to render it an eligible residence for the perpetual curate, the rectory, or parsonage-house, being occupied by one of the lessees of the great tythes. Beside the vicarage stands the infant school,

newly built and endowed by the munificence of a private individual, Mr. Thomas Kelsey, of Ash Street, whose name may be worthily coupled with that of Gervase Cartwright (*vide* Chapter IV.).

There are two other inns in Ash Street, of which we find mention a few years earlier than the notice of the Chequer, both of which are still in existence,—the Lion and the Ship; but as neither could pretend to an earlier date of erection, it tends to confirm our opinion that the Chequer was not a public house of entertainment before the commencement of the last century.

The Lion, sometimes called in the vestry books the Red Lion, appears to have been kept in 1697 by Thomas Horn—

"Paid goodman Horn, at the Lyon, spent upon the parish's account, at Easter and other times.....	0	11	9
Paid Thomas Horn, for lodging and quartering travillers.....	0	6	3"

In the passage facing the bar in this house is a small square piece of oak carving, with the figures of stags and human hearts, and a larger heart between the initials W. C., with the date 1660, whether originally belonging to the house we cannot undertake to say, but it has been there as long as any one now living can recollect, and was always understood to have formed a portion of it. The diamond pattern of the border, and the initials and date, recall the carving

of the oaken partition at Pedding, and was probably by the same hand.

"Met at the Ship," constantly occurs in the parish books at the beginning of the last century; but the name of the host does not transpire. In $167\frac{8}{9}$ the constable was paid 4s. "for money laid out by him when Barber and Russell were kept in *costodity* for pulling down widow Fennell's signe;" but as in those days signs were wont to be displayed by dealers in all sorts of commodities, we cannot undertake to say that Mrs. Fennell was the landlady of the Ship or of one of "the victualling houses" for "lodging and quartering travillérs" mentioned in 1699 (twenty years later), and to defray the expenses of which 19s. 3d. were paid to Mr. Small the borsholder, or disburser, as that officer is denominated in later records. The persons paid as victuallers on that occasion were the widow Ewell, Adam Hammond, and John Beall, the latter of whom we know kept the Chequer in 1707. Pulling down signs, however, appears by the above entry to have been a frolic as old as the times of Charles II., and Messrs. Barber and Russell figure as the respectable prototypes of Tom and Jerry.

"Ash mill," probably the one still standing behind the Lion, is mentioned in 1637, when Edward White is assessed for six acres of land belonging to it.

On the left beyond the Lion, with a small plot of garden in front of it, is the school-house for the boys of Cartwright's charity, and in an adjacent

building the girls' school. The latter, with an adjoining house for the master and mistress, were, together with the noble sum of £1,000, bequeathed to the parish by the late Mrs. Elizabeth Godfrey, of Brooke Street (*vide* Chapter IV.). The removal of these schools from the vestry-room and the Molland chancel in the church was a most beneficial arrangement.

On the right of the street, nearly facing "the Lion," a road leads down to the Moat Farm, sometimes called Brook House, from the Wingham brook which rises close beside it; but we must not confound it with Brooke House, properly so called, at Brooke Street in this parish, just alluded to, and of which we shall shortly have to speak. Moat Farm was, as early as Queen Elizabeth's reign, in the possession of the family of Stoughton. One of them—"Edward Stoughton, of Ash, Gent.," whose will was proved in 1573, bequeathed to his son Joel, amongst other things, "the embroidering of a vestment, set with 5,000 pearls and more, and 2,000 spangles and more of silver-gilt upon the same."

This Edward Stoughton of Ash was the great-grandson of Sir John Stoughton, Knight, Lord Mayor of London, whose second son, John Stoughton, of Dartford, the grandfather of Edward, married, before 1457, Jane, one of the daughters and coheirs of Roger Clitherow, of Goldston in Ash, by which marriage the estate of Little Betshanger, in Eastry parish, came to the family of Stoughton, from whom it passed first to Gibbs and then to Omer, with whom

it remained till the decease of Lawrence Omer, of Ash, when his only daughter and heir, Jane, brought it back to the Stoughtons by her marriage with Thomas Stoughton of Ash, and afterwards of St. Martin's, Canterbury, son of Edward, of the Moat Farm aforesaid. Thomas Stoughton died in 1591, and left three daughters, his coheirs, one of whom, named Elizabeth, married Thomas Wilde, of St. Martin's Hill, Canterbury, Esq., and he alienated this estate of the Moat Farm to Mr. John Proude, who resided here, as did his descendants, to the time of Charles II.

John Proude of Ash, the elder, yeoman, by his will, proved in 1626, ordered that his executor should erect upon his land "adjoining to the churchyard, but not upon it," a house or building of the size and sort therein mentioned, which should be disposed of always in future by the churchwardens and overseers for a school-house, and for a store-house to lay in provisions for the church and poor; and if they should not sufficiently repair it, or otherwise dispose of it, such person or persons to whom the adjoining land belonged, should enter into it and enjoy the same as if his bequest had not been made. We have taken some trouble to ascertain whether this house is still in existence, and believe it to be the long building "adjoining the churchyard, but not upon it," behind the Ship Inn, and which was used as a Wesleyan chapel in 1827. It is now appropriated by the rifle volunteers to the purposes of drill, &c.,

and belongs to Mr. Ash, brewer, of Canterbury, owner of the Ship Inn, to which property it seems to have become attached by some such default or neglect as is anticipated in the will. Whether it is identical with "the church-house," of which constant repairs are recorded in the Cess Books, and which was let at £1. 6s. 8d. per annum, we are unable to say, but rather think not. The "Church house" appears from other evidence to have been situate in the street. Proude's house is said by Hasted to have been let at £1 per annum in his time. In the churchwardens' accounts for 1660, 4d. is charged for mending the lock of "the stoarre (store) house," which, from the terms of the will, may possibly be the same building.

John Proude, son of the above John, was churchwarden of Ash in 1648, and from him the Moat Farm appears to have passed to the family of Solly of Pedding, by the marriage of Richard Solly, great-grandson of Stephen Solly the younger, with Mary Proude, October 5th, 1658. Richard Solly died possessed of it in 1683, and his great-grandson, Edward Solly, Esq., was the owner in Hasted's time. From Edward it descended to the present proprietor, Samuel Reynolds Solly, of Manchester Square, London, Esq., M.A., F.R.S., and F.S.A., and is now rented of him by Mr. Collett, of Ringleton.

The house, altered into a modern farm, with its buildings, has nothing picturesque about it but its situation, which is in a valley to the south-east of the

church, by the side of a pretty shady lane continuing the road from Ash Street, and winding round the base of a hill called Mount Ephraim, on which stands a mill, until it enters the parish of Woodnesborough, at the hamlet of Combe. We rather think this lane is the "Lovekey Street" of Edward I.'s time, mentioned by Harris, as Hasted gives that name to it in his description of Woodnesborough, and so long ago as the thirteenth century one may easily believe that a branch from it to the right might lead by the side of the Wingham brook to Poulton.

Passing through the turnpike a little beyond this lane, the road to Sandwich sweeps round to the left, another to the right leading to Dover, and crossing the boundary of the parish just before it enters the hamlet of Combe. As there is nothing to call for attention on the latter road, except a fine view to the north of Ramsgate Cliffs and Pegwell Bay, from the high ground which forms a sort of plateau or terrace in front of the straggling cottages of New Street, a place first mentioned in the Cess Books in the year 1699, we shall continue our perambulation along the direct road to Sandwich, passing "the large and commodious workhouse," of which Hasted speaks, erected between the years 1725 and 1730, and since the establishment of the Eastry union converted into a brewery (that of Gardner, Godden, & Co.), and which, with a handsome modern mansion* in the

* In digging the foundations of this house two fine Roman urns were discovered, now in the possession of Captain Godden.

style of the Renaissance, called Ash-den, the residence of Captain Godden, one of the firm, stands on the right hand of the road, and terminates in this direction the village of Ash.

A short distance from the road on the left hand stands Hill's Court, or rather the remains of the Manor House of that name, sometimes called Hill's Church Gate, the residence of Sir Edward Peke at the close of the seventeenth century, and which now presents no features of either beauty or antiquity to arrest our attention. It is inhabited only by the farm servants and other persons in the employ of the present tenant of Goshall, which, embosomed in trees, rises just beyond it. In the very same field with Hill's Court, a little to the north, stood within these few years what remained of the Manor House of Levericks, the residence of the Ash branch of that ancient family. The site of it is no longer distinguishable. It is represented to us as having been a very small brick building of the same class as Hill's Court and Goshall. The land is now farmed by Mr. Thomas Coleman, of Guston.

At a turn of the road on the right is a large sand-pit, which has long been known by the name of Collarmaker's hole; wherefore, nobody can inform us.

A family of the name of Collar is frequently mentioned in the Cess Book of the seventeenth century. Solomon Collar is assessed as an outman in 1637, but collar-maker is the common term used for a saddler or harness-maker, and some one of that trade may

have formerly rented the land or resided near this spot. At all events, as veracious chroniclers, we regret to say that no wild legend, no mysterious incident, as we had fondly imagined on first hearing of "collar-maker's hole," divests of its common-place character this solitary sand-pit, shortly after passing which we come in sight of Sandwich and reach the eastern extremity of this parish, which terminates a few hundred yards on the west side of Each-end turnpike gate in Woodnesborough parish, and a little beyond the junction of a road onthe left leading to East Street and Brooke Street. Before us is "the causeway" mentioned as early as the reign of Henry III. as "the causeway or common road between Sandwich and Esche," Each, or Eche, being only another name for Esche, Esshe, and Ash. We have close at hand Upper Eche and Nether Eche, and this point has naturally been called Each-end, as it is the eastern termination of the parish. Here, at any rate, we have no cause to regret the absence of legend or tradition. "Truth, stranger than fiction,"—history, authenticated by official documents, invests "this causeway" and the common road connecting it with Ash, which we have for some time followed, with interest far superior to any derivable from "auld wives' tales" or rustic superstition. Along this road the lion-hearted Richard of England walked barefoot to Canterbury on his return from captivity in Germany in 1194. Edward I., in the twenty-sixth year of his reign, landed at Sandwich on his return from

Flanders, and journeyed Londonward by this route. Edward III., who usually embarked and disembarked at Sandwich, must frequently have passed through Ash, and particularly in 1347, when, after the surrender of Calais, he returned to Sandwich in very tempestuous weather, accompanied by his fair queen, Philippa, and his gallant son, Edward the Black Prince. That by this road that model of chivalry conducted his royal captive, John, king of France, after the victory of Poictiers, has been asserted by some historians, and doubted, though not absolutely disproved, by others. Instructions were certainly issued to prepare for the arrival and landing of the Prince of Wales at Plymouth, but there is no authentic account of his having done so. Sailing from Bordeaux, it would certainly be the more direct route; but Froissart (chap. 172) not only positively says Sandwich, "where they took up their quarters in the town and neighbourhood, and remained two days to refresh themselves," but goes on to record their staying one day at Canterbury, where the king and prince made their offerings to the shrine of St. Thomas, resting the second day at Rochester, and the third at Dartford, and arriving on the fourth day at London. This account is too circumstantial to be lightly discredited in the absence of direct evidence to the contrary.

Edward IV. was at Sandwich on Whitsun-eve, in the tenth year of his reign; and, in the sixteenth, assembled there a magnificent army, and sailed on

that expedition to France which was followed by the peace of Pecquigni.

Henry VIII. visited Sandwich in 1533, and again in 1537; and Queen Elizabeth was royally entertained there in 1573. (*Vide* page 138.)

We have no positive proof that the two latter sovereigns travelled by way of Ash. "Bluff King Hal" may have gone thither from Deal, Walmer, or Dover; but when Queen Elizabeth went from the archbishop's palace at Beakesbourne across Barham Downs to Sandwich, it is highly probable, either at that time or on returning, the good people of Ash Street had a glimpse of her. There can be no doubt that all in the parish who had the power were present at the sham fight at Stonor, and very little that in her progress to or from Sandwich, she passed along some part of the road we are supposed to be travelling.

Whether the duke of York, afterwards James II., was at Ash "when his men lay there" in 1665 (*vide* page 165), does not appear; most probably not. He went to join the fleet at Harwich, and returned from that port to London after his victory over the Dutch on the 3rd of June; some of the crew of the *Royal Charles*, the duke's ship, may have come ashore at Sandwich or Margate, as she was in the Thames later in the year.* For the last two hundred years, however, this road has not been honoured by the passage of royalty, with one notable exception. Her present

* Pepys' Journal.

most gracious Majesty, when Princess Victoria, drove through Ash on her way to Walmer, in company with her illustrious mother, H.R.H. the duchess of Kent.

Sandwich has ceased in its turn to be a point of embarcation for the Continent, although it yet ranks as one of the Cinque Ports. The South-Eastern Railway monopolizes the passenger traffic between it and the metropolis, and Ash Street, through which, not many years ago, the Deal mail dashed twice a day, and which well-laden stage-coaches from Walmer to Canterbury, Herne Bay and London, kept continually alive with the clatter of four horses and the echoes of the guard's horn, is now rarely traversed by anything more imposing than a neighbouring farmer's dog-cart, a parson's pony chaise, or mine host of the Lion's daily omnibus to Canterbury. Still the parish bears itself bravely up. It responds promptly and heartily to any call upon its good feeling or good fellowship. It has its gay cricket matches, its joyous school feasts, its merry May games, and its genial harvest homes. For the celebration of these two last time-honoured and truly English festivals it has lately, indeed, acquired a high and well-merited county reputation, and can afford to smile at the malicious old couplet, never less applicable to it than at present, of

"Ash church with its peaked steeple,
A bad parson and worse people.'*

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* Local tradition throws no light on the date or origin of this

But we are digressing. Let us proceed on our journey.

Leaving the high road at this point, and taking the bye one to the left, of which we have spoken, we pass the half-dozen cottages that form the hamlet of East Street on our right, and arrive at Goshall, with its stately elms, the remains of an avenue which it is said stretched formerly far away towards Sandwich. Amongst them rises a little stream, called Goshall Fleet, which running through Brook Street, finds its way across the marshes into the Stour, below Richborough.

Goshall, like Molland and Chequer, is now a comfortable modernized residence. It was probably rebuilt on the site of the old hall by the Dynelys or the Ropers in Queen Elizabeth's time, since which it has undergone continual alterations, especially by the late Mr. Coleman.* Harris, whose History of Kent was published in 1719, says that there was a stone coffin dug up here "some ten years ago;" and in his notice of Trapham, in Wingham parish, where a similar relic was found, he tells us that he had his information from "the minister of Ash." This must have been either poor Shocklidge, who was drowned

libel. It must have been composed at least a hundred years ago, as its first circulation is "not within the memory of the oldest inhabitant."

* Mrs. Coleman, his widow, and mother of the present Mr. Thomas Coleman, died at Goshall, September 29th, 1863, and her son has subsequently removed hither from Guston.

in 1712, or his successor, Obadiah Browne, who was the incumbent to 1721.

At an angle of the road immediately before us is the entrance to Brooke House, in the hamlet of Brooke Street, and which, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, was the property of John Brooke, Gent., who died in 1582, and was buried in the north chancel of Ash church. He left no issue by his wife Magdalen, daughter of —— Stothard, of Mottingham, and this seat consequently came to the heirs of his aunt Bennett, sister of his father, John Brooke, and who had married Stephen Hougham, of Weddington.

From the Houghams, after some intermediate owners, the estate passed to John Hayward, of Sandwich, Gent., who, by Jane his wife, sister of John Paramour, of Stattenborough, Esq., left a daughter and heir named Jane, first married to John Hawker, and secondly to John Dilnot, Esq., of Sandwich, who, in her right, possessed it in Hasted's time. Mrs. Dilnot died without issue, Feb. 23rd, 1790, and the estate passed a few years afterwards, by bequest of Peter Godfrey, Esq., to his kinsman, Thomas Jull, Esq., who assumed by Act of Parliament, 4th Jan., 1799, the surname of Godfrey only, and from him, after the death of his wife Elizabeth, to his nephew, John Jull, Esq., who 24th May, 1810, obtained the Royal licence for himself and issue to take and bear the name and arms of Godfrey, and died here in 1861, sincerely lamented throughout the parish of Ash, in which he had, by a long life of kindness and

benevolence, deservedly obtained the enviable title of "the poor man's friend."

Brooke House is at present the residence of his widow and eldest son, Mr. Ingram Fuller Godfrey, M.A. It was converted into a handsome villa residence by the late Mr. Godfrey, but there is still a portion of the original building preserved, with the date of 1577 upon the ornamental end of one of the rafters.

On quitting Brooke Street the road runs northward behind Twitham Hill, now the property of John Minter Tomlin, Esq., the land being farmed by Mr. Drayson, of Sandwich; and Weddington, the old seat of the Houghams. The "Hall House at Weddington," specified in the will of Michael, son and heir of Bennett Hougham, as the one in which he dwelt, no longer exists, and that of Twitham Hill, so called, not from its position on any eminence, but from the family of Hills or Helles, another branch of the Twithams, is now, like Molland and Goshall, nothing more than a comfortable farmhouse, possessing no interest for the antiquary beyond the recollections connected with the names.

To the east the marshes stretch away to the Stour and the cottages of Lowton, at the foot of the isolated hill on which still crumble the walls of Richborough.

Passing through the hamlet of Cooper Street we arrive at Fleet, around which there still runs water enough to account for its name. The house is only

occupied by servants in the employ of Mr. Coleman of Guston, who uses the land which has recently passed into the possession of the Marquis of Conyngham.

It is reported that Queen Elizabeth was once entertained here by the Earl of Oxford. If such was the fact, it must have been in 1572, on the occasion of her Majesty's visit to Sandwich, where she arrived on the 31st of August, and lodged at Mr. Manwood's, a house in which her father, King Henry VIII., had lodged twice before.

In the curious description of this visit printed in Boy's Collections and Nichol's Progresses of Queen Elizabeth, there is no mention of Fleet; but it appears that "on the next day after her arrival at Sandwich, being Tuesday and the 1st of September, she went to Stonar, where the towne having builded a fort on t'other side of the haven, the captains aforesaid (viz., Alexander Combe, Edward Peke, and Edward Wood) led over their men to assault the said fort, during which time certain Walloons, who could well swim, had prepared two boats, and in the end of each boat a board, upon which boards stood a man, and so met together with either of them a staff and a shield of wood, and one of them did overthrow another, at which the queen had good sport, and that done, the captains put their men into a battle, and taking with them some loose shot, gave the *scarmishe* (skirmish) to the fort, and in the end, after the discharge of two falconets and certain chambers, after divers assaults the fort was won."

As this "good sport" and sham fight took place on the Stour in front of Richborough, it is scarcely out of our province to notice it, independently of the tradition of the queen's visit to Fleet in the immediate neighbourhood, which must have been in an unusual degree of excitement on such an occasion. The silence, however, of the contemporary chronicler respecting Fleet, while so minutely recording every particular of the queen's visit, and the absence of the name of the Earl of Oxford from the list of persons in attendance on her, or assembled to receive her, induce us to doubt the story of her having ever passed the threshold of the present or any older mansion of the De Veres in this vicinity.

On our right the road runs into the hamlet of Richborough, and terminates abruptly at the foot of the hill on which stands the castle (now the property, by purchase, of Denne Denne, Esq., of Elbridge Park, near Canterbury, and which is already sufficiently described in our two first chapters), and in front of Richborough Farm, occupied by Mr. George Solly, descended from one of the numerous branches of that prolific tree which has flourished in this parish and its immediate neighbourhood for upwards of five hundred years, and probably from the time of the Conqueror.

Turning to our left, then, we take the road to Guston, formerly Gurson, another moiety of the great manor of Fleet, held by the De Veres for centuries under the family of Sandwich. The house was till

lately the residence of Mr. Thomas Coleman, whose father sold this estate, with others adjacent, to the late Marchioness Dowager of Conyngham, and which are now rented and farmed by Mr. Coleman as tenant of the present marquis.

Beyond Guston, to the north and east, all is marsh, with here and there a solitary cottage,—one named "Providence Cottage," which must surely stand in need of its especial care; and beyond the Stour the high land of the Isle of Thanet, the village and the fine old church of Minster forming an agreeable foreground.

Our road now brings us by Potts Farm, and an old hovel dignified by the title of Sparrow Castle, past Sandhills, to Upper and Lower Goldstone, the ancient domains of the Leybournes and of the Clintons, Earls of Huntingdon, but retaining no vestige of their might or their magnificence. Of their later owners, the family of Toke of Goddington still retains possession of the manor.

A lane on the left leads to the hamlet of Cop Street, so called, it would seem, from a family of the name of Cop or Cope, one of whom, John Cope, had lands granted to him in "the vill of Esshe," by John de Goshall, in the sixteenth year of the reign of Edward III., A.D. 1343,* and from thence into the

* The witnesses to this deed, which is preserved amongst the Harleian Charters in the British Museum, 78 D. 30, are Henry att *Crouch* and Thomas Mollonde.

There is a cottage and oasthouse between Cop Street and Ash,

village of Ash; but our road is still to the north, until it runs into that which traverses the parish from the western extremity of Guilton, past Molland, Chequer Court, and Nell, to Warehorn and Paramour Street, the latter locality taking its name from an old and widely-spread Kentish family, the Paramours of Sandwich, Stattenborough, Ash, Eastry, and St. Nicholas, Thanet. Thomas Paramour, of Paramour Street, Ash, was seated here as early as the close of the fifteenth century. By his wife Cecilia, daughter and heir of Hambroke, he had two sons, William and Henry. Henry Paramour was living 16th of Henry VIII., A.D. 1525, and by his wife, Alice Fornell, had a son, John, who married Jane, daughter of Thomas Beke, of Wickham Breaux. Their son Thomas married, first, Anne, daughter of Michael Hougham, of Weddington, and, secondly, Maria, daughter of Richard Sampson, of London, and widow of Robert Garth, of London. This Thomas resided at Fordwich, and was Mayor of Canterbury in 1619; and from his epitaph in Minster Church, Isle of Thanet, in which he is called "our champion," it is probable he was the "Thomas Paramor" whose wager of battle respecting lands in the Isle of Harty was so singularly terminated in Tothill Fields, London, A.D. 1571. But of this and other matters connected with this

now called Crackstakes, which we think may be a corruption of Crouch or Cruxstakes. A family of the name of Copp was in existence in this parish in 1619.

ancient and numerous family we shall speak in our fifth chapter to those who take an interest in genealogical details, contenting ourselves at present with pointing out to our fellow-traveller Paramour Grange, the family mansion, which was alienated to the Fullagers, one of whom, Mr. Christopher Fullager, of Maidstone, was the owner in Hasted's time. Turning to the west at Warehorn, we proceed to Ware,* formerly the property of the Crayfords, of whom it was purchased by John Paramour, of Stattenborough, Esq., who dying without issue in 1750, it came to his three nieces, two of them being daughters of his sister, Mary Paramour, wife of Thomas Fuller, of Sandwich, gentleman; and the third, Jane, daughter of Jane, his other sister, by John Hayward, of Sandwich, and wife of William Boteler, of Eastry, Esq., who on a division of the estates became entitled to it in her right.

Between Wareham and Ware are two roads on the right. One, running parallel with Paramour Street, leads to Bereling Street,† a name which is as ancient in this parish as the time of Richard I., as we find an Adam de Bereling holding lands in Fleet under the

* A William at Ware was one of the constables of the hundred of Wingham at the time of Wat Tyler's rebellion, 4th of Richard II., A.D. 1381.

† Occasionally written *Barding* Street in the old Cess Books of the 17th century, and also called *Brewer* Street and *Brasing* Street, appellations obviously derived from the original name of Bere(*beer*)ling, a manor anciently belonging to the Maminots, ancestors of the Crevecœurs, and the church of which was given by Walkeline Maminot to the Priory of Bermondsey.

Avranches and Beauchamps in 1197. The other road runs almost due north through Westmarsh to within a short distance of the Stour, near to Stourmouth, the extreme northerly point of the parish.

Westmarsh is the largest hamlet in Ash, and is now in a separate ecclesiastical district, having a small church, built in 1841, and dedicated to the Holy Trinity.*

Beyond this, in the middle of the marshes, stands a group of cottages called Houghton (query, Out town); one is a very old, half-timbered house, perhaps the oldest unaltered one in the parish.

Turning to the south-west on leaving the village of Westmarsh, we come to Wingham Barton, still the property of the Bekes or Beakes of Wickham Breus, who held it in Hasted's time. The ancient mansion or manor-house of Barton was granted fourth of Edward VI. to Sir Anthony St. Ledger. It is probably the one still standing — a long, low, white-washed building, utterly destitute of architectural ornament.

Another sharp angle of the road at the hamlet of Housden, or Uphousen, brings us to the very verge of the parish at a place called Sherewater, from which a road branches off to Elmstone, entering immediately

* The funds for this purpose being entirely collected, and principally contributed by, Bishop Nixon, then the incumbent. A place called Cold-marsh is frequently mentioned in the old assessments, before we hear of Westmarsh, and may possibly indicate the same locality.

the parish of that name, which here forms the north-western boundary of Ash.

Skirting this boundary, the road passes through Hoden, a seat of the ancient family of St. Nicholas in this parish, whose principal messuage here in the seventeenth century was called "The Mote." Here again we must refer our antiquarian friends, or "those whom it may concern," to our fifth chapter for details of this highly interesting family, who by their intermarriages with the heiresses of the Goshalls, the De Campanias, Septvans, Manstons, &c., might boast of their descent from the noblest houses in England, yet never attained in their own person to higher honour than knighthood, and have died out, leaving even in their own county nothing to remember them by beyond their names and arms upon their decaying gravestones. Thomas St. Nicholas, of Ash, gentleman, by his will proved in 1626, appears to have resided at "The Mote" here, and devised it to his son Thomas, whose daughter Elizabeth* in 1655 brought it in marriage to Mr. Wittingham Wood, after whom it passed to Nathaniel Elgar, of Sandwich, Esq.

Behind Hoden a little to the west is Overland, in

* Mr. Hasted calls her *Grace;* but the following registration of the marriage must surely be conclusive:—"The publication of Wittingham Wood, of the City of Canterbury, Esq^re., and *Elizabeth* St. Nicholas, the daughter of Thomas St. Nicholas and Susanna his wife, 3rd, 7th, and 14th of November, in Sandwich Market-place, and they were married the 25th day of December, 1655, by Justice Foat of Canterbury."—(Ash Registers.) She is also described as "Elizabeth, y^e sole daughter of Thomas St. Nicholas," in the mural

the borough of that name, so called, as we have previously stated, from the Saxon *ofer*, a shore, being the high ground which anciently formed the bank of the Stour, according to Somner, and we may add the shore of the sea, which undoubtedly covered all the marsh below it in the time of the Romans.

Overland formed part of the enormous possessions of Johanna de Leybourne, "the Infanta of Kent," and has belonged at various periods to several of the greatest of our English families. From Hoden the road still skirts the boundary of the parish to Nash, and thence to the road from Preston, which divides it from Staple, and brings us out into the high road from Canterbury at Guilton Parsonage, thus completing our perambulation.

The tourist in search of the picturesque will not be tempted to follow our path. The general traveller may consider it all barren "from Dan to Beersheba." With the exception of two or three shady lanes, agreeable enough in the height of summer, the parish of Ash, within its bounds, possesses little rural beauty, and the ruins of Richborough are devoid of those romantic features which give to the towers of a feudal fortress, "nodding to their fall," an indescribable charm in the eyes of the least imaginative spectator. The church, which we have

tablet of her husband in Ash Church (*vide* chap. v.), on which the introduction of the word "Grace," in large letters, has evidently been the origin of the error.

yet to notice, is probably the only object that would arrest the attention of the casual visitor, and could scarcely fail to repay him for the trouble of its inspection. But in historical associations, in archæological interest, few parishes in the United Kingdom perhaps can equal, and certainly none surpass, that of Ash next Sandwich.

It is also remarkable in other respects. Half of it a huge sandbank deposited by the sea, which gradually retiring has left the other half a marsh, the value of its pasture and arable land has nearly trebled during the present century, while its numerous and prolific gardens supply not merely the markets of all the neighbouring towns and watering-places; but to a very great extent even the celebrated one of Covent Garden, London, with fruit and vegetables; Mr. Thomas Sutton, of Ash, being one of the most considerable market gardeners in England. The climate is cold, but in the higher portions of the parish from Guilton to New Street the situation is healthy, a fresh sea-breeze sweeping across the low grounds, neutralizing the effects of what some of the good folks in the neighbourhood call the "*marshal* air." The bells in the adjacent parish of Wingham rang in November, 1861, in celebration of the hundredth birthday of a hale and clear-minded dame who was born at Ash in 1761, and lived to enter the second year of her second century. Her daughter is still a parishioner here, whole and hearty at eighty-four. But a few years ago another female

centenarian on her birthday was carried out of the village into a cornfield, where she bravely reaped and bound a sheaf of wheat with her own hands, and was borne back with it in triumph. A cheerful old body now living in Ash Street* only complains that at ninety-seven she can't "prowl" as she was wont; and although we will not presume to say of our parish as the American did of his, "If you want to die you must go into the next, for you can't die here," we may still claim for it a very creditable position in the records of the Registrar-General.†

With the before-mentioned exceptions of Richborough and the church, no buildings remain of any considerable antiquity. During the Middle Ages, down to the time of the Tudors, the habitations of

* She died as this book was passing through the press, Oct. 6th, 1863, having just entered her ninety-eighth year.

† We may remark here that in the year 1572, when the plague was at Sandwich, in July, the burials at Ash during the whole twelve months, from April, 1572, to the end of March, 1573, amounted but to 21, and in the following twelve months but to 17,—but one person (Rebecca, daughter of Hamlet Taylor) being buried in the month of July, 1572, and none in the months of May, June, and July, 1573. The plague was again at Sandwich in 1597, when the number of burials at Ash reached 36, rather exceeding the annual average, which at this period was about 24. In 1635, at a third visitation of that dreaded pestilence, the deaths at Ash were 22 rather under the average; and in 1665, the year of the great plague of London, but 16. That there have been sickly years in this parish, as well as in others, we do not for a moment deny. In 1592 and 1593, the deaths, from some prevailing malady we presume, but of which we find no record, reached to 67 in the former and 62 in the latter year.

persons of consideration and property were principally composed of wood. Here and there a castle or moated and crenelated mansion might be found of stone; but the generality of dwelling-houses deserved the contemptuous remark of the foreigner in the suite of Philip of Spain, who declared that English houses were built of "sticks and dirt." In the fifteenth century, at the great epoch of the revival of the Arts, domestic architecture experienced the influence of the "renaissance," not only in ornamental design, but in scientific construction. Many of the finest of those old red-brick "courts" and "halls" which rear their quaint gables and enormous stacks of decorated chimneys above "the ancestral oaks" of our nobility and gentry, were erected in the reign of Henry VIII., and a still greater number during those of Elizabeth and James I., at which period there was such a rage for building in London that it was found necessary to restrict it by Act of Parliament.* It would seem as if at this latter period all the landed proprietors in this part of the country had, by common consent, in obedience to the Royal mandate insisting on the residence of the nobility and gentry on their estates, determined to rebuild their manor-houses and "capital messuages," and leave no vestige of the homes of their fathers

* Several proclamations were issued during the reigns of Elizabeth, James, and Charles I. on this subject, and prosecutions commenced against noble persons of both sexes who disregarded them.

or of their feudal lords, to gratify the curiosity of a later generation. Even the better sort of cottages are of brick and of this date, or altogether of very recent construction. Few are to be seen of wood, and but two, to the best of our recollection, of that picturesque admixture of blackened timber and white plaster which produces so charming an effect in many parts of this county, in which such buildings are sometimes called "needlework houses," no doubt from the fashion prevalent in the fifteenth century of embroidering shirt collars, cuffs, and other linen articles of apparel with black or dark-blue silk. We are left therefore, unfortunately, in complete ignorance of the character and class of the mansions inhabited by the nobles and knights who actually resided in the parish of Ash during the twelfth, thirteenth, and fourteenth centuries. That some, if not all, of the manor-houses were moated, we have existing evidence; and we may conclude that in those times they were to a certain degree fortified, but as to their size or internal arrangement, the materials of which they were constructed, or the distinguishing features of their architecture, we are in total darkness. Contemporary examples in other parts of England, or even of Kent, would be but of little service to us. The soil, the situation, are both exceptional, and it is therefore still more to be deplored that no relic should remain of edifices so peculiarly interesting to us. One most remarkable fact respecting them is their exceedingly close proximity to each

other. The manor-houses of Hills Court and of Levericks actually stood in the same field, and that not a large one, and Goshall in the next, so near that an urchin might fling a stone from either into the windows of the other. Twitham Hills could not have been beyond a bow-shot of Levericks, and Weddington scarcely a greater distance from the former. Molland and Chequer Court are not separated by more land than would be required to form a small park for a modern country house; and although the rest stand farther apart from each other, the distance is in no case considerable. In these happy days of domestic peace and social intercourse, such contiguity may be very agreeable, and cannot under any circumstances be greatly inconvenient; but in the time of bills and bows, mail-shirts and steel caps, when family feud or party strife might suddenly set the whole parish by the ears,—when a tenant by knight's service could be summoned by the great lord of the fee to take arms with all his retainers against the holder of an adjoining manor—his nearest kinsman, perchance, as well as his nearest neighbour, —the position must have been vastly embarrassing. Fortunately, however, we have reason to believe, from the absence of all evidence to the contrary, that this particular district, however it might have suffered by the depredations of the Danes before the Conquest, or on the occasional landings of the French at Sandwich in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, escaped in its own immediate locality the horrors of

civil war, and was never seriously disturbed by private quarrels or domestic discords.

The popular tumults in the reign of Richard II., when Wat Tyler of Essex and John Abel of Erith, on Monday, 10th of June, 1381, dragged William Septvans, the Sheriff of Kent and the kinsman of John of Ash, from Canterbury to Milton, and compelled him under the fear of death to deliver up to them fifty rolls of the pleas of the county and all the writs of the king in his custody, and burnt them the same day at Canterbury, do not appear to have extended to Ash, though outbreaks took place so near it as Ickham, Littlebourne, and Chillenden, as well as in various parts of the Isle of Thanet, and amongst the parties compromised we find the names of John Twytham and John Clerk of Preston; but they were found not guilty by the Jurors of the Hundreds of Wingham and Eastry, according to their presentment. The fearful passions awakened by the wars of the Roses, however they may have affected the knightly families who possessed property in the parish at that period, do not seem to have given rise to any memorable incident within its boundaries. Even the calamitous troubles preceding the establishment of the Commonwealth have left no record of their visitation of Ash in the minute accounts of the parochial authorities.

Parishes were first made liable to the relief of the poor by Act of Parliament in the forty-third year of the reign of Elizabeth, A.D. 1601, and the church-

wardens' accounts for that and the eight following years have been partially preserved. There is then a hiatus unfortunately for twenty-five years, but from 1634 an unbroken series exists to the present day. The first six pages of the earliest book are imperfect, and the names of the parish officers do not appear till 1603, when the churchwardens were Ethelbert Omer, and Robert Atwood, and Thomas Gibbs—Humphrey Gardiner and Thomas Harlowe, overseers.

The examiners of the accounts for 1603 were John Stebbing, Henry Harfleet, Thomas St. Nicholas, Richard Hougham, Ethelbert Omer; and the accounts were allowed by Thomas Harfleet and Thomas Engeham. The entries in this book are nearly all of small weekly payments to the poor "in relief," and there are no notices of the parish or church which deserve extracting; but from the pages of the other books, containing the receipts and expenses of the churchwardens and overseers for upwards of two hundred years, we gain considerable authentic information respecting the affairs of the parish from the time of Charles I., and much that is generally illustrative of manners and customs, as well as particularly interesting to the inhabitants of Ash. As an example of these Cess Books, we give the whole of the payments of one of the churchwardens for 1634 *verbatim et literatim*, after which we shall only extract such entries as are either curious or amusing in themselves, or bear directly on the history of the church and parish. The book commences with the following

information :—"Anno Domini 1633, there was a ces made in Ash by the churchwardens and constable and overseears aftar the reate of on peny the Ackar and a peny for evary house towards the Repayrasions of the parish church of Ash, which did amount too £26. 16s. 11d.;" then, after a few unimportant entries of receipts and some layings out by Richard Carr, one of the churchwardens,* we come to the subjoined account of his brother officer, Michael Inkpet :—

Heare followeth the layings out of Michael Inkpet.†

Item, for quit-rent to Chilton Court, Aprill the 14th day, 1634, for the church hous..	£0	0	8
Item, payd too John Tomson for breed and wine for 7 monthly communions, beginning the i day of Jully, and the ending the second of March	1	7	1
Item, for sand for the church	0	0	8
Item, for expenses	0	0	6
Item, to fouar travillars.....	0	0	4
Item, for a pies of timbar	0	1	2
Item, for 27 pound and a half of sadar (solder) for the leedes.....	1	7	6
For three days worke for the pllumer and his son	0	10	0
For a masons worke about the church.....	0	2	0

* By the same book we find that he was assessed for the year 1635, at Richborough, for 264 acres.

† He appears to have resided at this time at Guilton Town, where he paid cess in the following year for 5 acres.

	£	s	d
Item, too 2 travillars	0	0	6
Item, for three bordes for the church	0	2	0
And a pies of timbar	0	0	6
And for sande	0	0	4
And for expensses on the workmen	0	2	0
Item, too 2 travillars	0	0	3
Item, for a brush, brome, and a mon* basket	0	0	5
Item, for a loade of lime	0	9	6
Item, too the gllazar for mending the windows	0	15	4
Item, too Thomas Coullson for worck about the church	0	2	0
And too Haman the mason for worcking...	0	10	0
Item, brom, brush, & key	0	0	10
And too 4 sefaring man	0	0	4
Item, for a small corde and for rosen	0	0	4
Item, for dyet for worckmen	0	2	8
And for a small pices of timbar	0	0	6
Item, for a proctars fees	0	1	0
Item, too 6 travillars	0	2	0
Item, too Abraham Whetstone for worcke.	0	5	0
Item, for a sarvis boocke for the church...	0	9	10
Item, for a sacke of charcolle	0	1	6
Item, too Coullson for working at the church	0	16	0
And for expences at that tim	0	1	0
Item, for a pllancke and A boord	0	1	2

* Maund Basket—an oblong shallow basket without a cover, used by ostlers in this part of the country for carrying keep for their horses in.

And for A hundred of lates	£0	1	4
And for nayles	0	0	4
For half A dayes worcke too Coullson	0	0	6
For too dayes worcke of the mason	0	3	0
Item, for bring(ing) of boords from Sandwich	0	1	6
For ringing on gonpowder treson day	0	2	6
Givin to John Broun, a travellar	0	0	8
And too another travellar	0	0	3
For Coullson and his son working	0	3	0
Item, for Brickes	0	6	0
Item, too 5 Travellars	0	0	10
Item, for this papar boocke	0	3	8
Item, for bringing of Boordes from Sandwich	0	2	0
Item, too A poor scollmastar	0	1	0
Item, for a load of clay bringing	0	1	0
For searching of Mary Dikson And another mayd suspacted	0	2	0
Item, for 32 foot of timbar	0	18	8
Item, for too pllanckes	0	6	3
Too Thomas Cllifard for on day & a half for himself an his man	0	4	0
For a pice of ocke for the bells	0	1	4
Item, for on days worcke at church, And another day too towne for bords too Richard Sandar	0	3	0
Item, slliting of too delle boordes	0	0	6
Item, for nayles and spickes & houldfastes, fet (?) at Thomas Baxes	0	9	0

For iron worcke about the third bell	£0	1	0
Naylls for mastar Gibbeses pewe	0	0	8
For sharpling of the church mathocke.....	0	0	2
Item, for a new shufell a new sparde	0	3	10
And iron for too lay in the church wall ...	0	0	6
For mending of the gugen of the fourth Bell an maeking 5 wedges theareto	0	2	6
For too Staples for the Keeches of the Bells	0	0	6
A cech for the church gate for brades, a houldfast an a flaylle	0	0	6
For spikes, naylles and priges for the church and church hous	0	3	11
Item, for Thomas Cliffard and his man's worcking at the church	0	4	0
For too days worck of Thomas Coullson ...	0	2	0
Three days worck of A mason	0	4	0
For hearre (hair).....	0	0	6
For sande.....	0	0	4
For collaring the new pewes.....	0	1	0
For bringing of a load of paving tiles	0	2	0
Givene too 2 travillars	0	0	4
Item, too Richard Sandar and thomas Cliffard for pulling up of ould pewes and seting up of new in the north winge of the Church	2	17	0
Item, for boordes to macke thoues new pewes and mend othar	3	5	0
Item, too Simon Barow for washing and cleaning all the linan an the other			

thinges Bee-longing to the Communion Table	£0	5	0
Item, for writing of the ceas which is mentioned in the beegining of this acounte	0	2	0
And for writing of Acounte	0	2	6
For expences at our Acountes writing the 3rd of June 1634	0	3	9

The layings out in the Year of our Lord, 1634:

Item, at the visitation for Mastar Brigame's Ordinary and the dinar of us churchwardens and sydemen Aprill the 15th daye	£0	10	0
Item, for an Articll Boocke on our othes taeking	0	4	0
Item, for the Billes of presentment writing	0	3	0
And for the expences of the writing thearof	0	6	0
Item, spent at the wallkin of the perambewlasion	0	2	0
Item, givin to a travillar	0	0	4
Item, for leading and banding of 13 foot of gllas	0	3	3
And for 41 quares of new gllas for the Church windowes	0	3	5
Item, too three trauellars at seuarall times	0	1	8
Item, too Mychall wood for 5 batharers lethars	0	1	8
Payd too Silluistar Cooke Apon oulld Recknings for te Church worcke ABout the gates And belles	0	5	6

Payd too Thomas Coullson for A dayes worcke	£0	1	0
And for his ficting too Ladars from beekes boarn (Beaksbourne)	0	1	0
Item, payd for bread and wine for the Estar communions beeing 6 in numbar and the partyes 623 which reseved for Estar in the yeare 1634 the sume	0	24	10
Item, payd too William Mathyes for A Tribell Roop and a Tenar Roope of vi pence the pound beeing xvij pound...	0	8	6
Item, given too 6 poor sefaring men	0	1	0
And too A poor man & his wife	0	0	6
And to John Cooke a poor travillar	0	0	4
Item, payd for the hoode an typet for the minister	0	27	7
And for mending of the surplis	0	1	0
Item, payd to tomas brown for on quartar of A year keeping the dodgs out of the church	0	2	0
Item, given too A travilling gentillwoman	0	1	0
Item, to too travilling men in destres	0	0	10
Item, to A travillar and his wif which had bin A souldiar and the Kinges pas	0	1	0
Item, to to souldiers mor	0	0	8
Item, given to a man which had bin with The Kinge for hellp for the Kinges Evells for his wife and 3 childdren	0	1	6
Item, spent whene met to give up this Acounte	0	1	0

Item, to henary waties, scoole mastar, for writing of A Jaylle ses	£0	1	0
Item, to a poore travillar	0	0	3
And to anothar travillar with a lame arme	0	0	3
Item, payd too master brigham for writing of the bill of preesentment the first day of October	0	1	0
And for our expences at that time	0	4	0
Item, given too 2 poor souldiars which had A travilling pas	0	1	0
Item, puting in of the bill, and my expences	0	1	0
Item, payd to Johhn tomson, the 6 day of October, for the bread and wine of fouar monthly Communions	0	15	8
Item, given to 2 travillars	0	0	6
Payd to thomas brown for A quartars wadges for whipping the doges out of the church	0	2	0
Item, layd out at the Corte	0	1	4
Giveen to thomas woodrufe A preachar for his acxarsies in our minestars absence ...	0	5	8
To a poor travillar	0	0	6
Given to the ringars, the 5 day of November	0	4	0
Item, for 13 hundared of brickes for the Church yard walles, bought of Sur frances Cllarke	0	19	0
And for bringing them from Gillthan Toune to the church	0	3	4
And for lime and sande and caring of it ...	0	10	0
And William Clarke had for his measson worcke about the walles.....	0	16	0

Item, giveene to a travillin minnistar	£0	1	4
Item, for expenceses at Cantarbury	0	1	4
Giveen to a poor travilar	0	0	6
Item, payd for a pices of timbar	0	1	4
Item, payd for to new bellroopes	0	7	3
Item, for a boord for the church hous	0	1	6
And to Thomas Clliffard half a days worcke	0	0	9
Item, to a travilling minnistars widow ...	0	0	6
Item, for our expencses when wee Rod to Ashford to the shreve (sheriff) a bout the Cesse for the shipes,* and for the bocke casting up of the Acers of land in our parish.....	0	13	6
Item, for mending of the gllass windowes of the Church lofte or scolle houes	0	3	10
Item, payd to Thomas browne for his Christmas quartars wadges for whiping The dodges oute of the Church.....	0	2	0
Item, payd to John tomson for the breed and win of 3 monthly Communions	0	14	5
And for our Expenses at sevarall meetinges about the parish busines	0	4	5
Item, layd oute apone gooing to Cantarbury, Apon to sitasions a boute the parish busines	0	4	0
Item, given to tenn pore travellars	0	0	10

* This was the obnoxious "ship money" tax, one of the three principal and proximate causes of the Great Rebellion.

Item, for Repayaring of the gllass windows, for 134 peans of new gllas, and sadaring of the ould leedes of the windowes	£0	22	9
Item, payd to Simon barrowes wife for washing the Communion linan and scuring the pllate and pewtar for on year	0	5	0
And to Simon Barrow for tacking the Communicats names all the yeare, monthly..	0	4	0
And for the writing of this acount and the cesse following to Simon Barrow	0	5	0
Item, payd to Thomas Coullson for chinching of the gllas windowes with lime and heare	0	1	0

In the year 1635 we meet with the two following entries, which tell their own story:—

Given to one poor Man and his wife and too female children, being driven from their dwelling by reson of the wars and their house burnt	£0	1	0
Given to Mr. John Carig (? Carrick or Craig), driven from Youghall in Ireland by the rebels	0	1	0

In 1635-6, the number of persons assessed in the parish was 150; out-men (*i. e.*, owners or tenants of land not residing in the parish), 75; cottagers, 36: total, 261.

In 1653 Thomas Beere, senior, churchwarden, accounts for the sum of £1. 5s., "received of *Mr.*

Thomas St. Nicholas, *Esq.*, given by Mr. Camden's last will and testament as an annuity payable to the churchwardens of Ash aforesaid, to be bestowed—5s. to the clerk and sexton, and 5s. to be retained to the use of themselves, and 15s. to the use of the poor of the same parish, which is disposed as forthwith amongst the poor." This is what is called sometimes the Toldervey Gift or Charity; but in addition to this gift Mr. Hasted states that "Mr. Richard Camden, in 1642, gave by will 40 perches of land, now in the occupation of William Chapman, for the use of the poor, and of the annual produce of 15s., which land is vested in the minister, churchwardens, and other trustees,"* thereby making two bequests to the parish instead of one. The fact is, that Mr. Camden, who was a connection by marriage of Mr. Toldervey,† left £20 to be invested in a house or lands, so as to produce a yearly sum of £1. 5s., to be disposed of as above stated,—the five shillings to the churchwardens being to buy them gloves, or to spend at a meeting, "as they shall think fit," and the five shillings to the

* *Vide* Chapter IV., where in the list of lands, tenements, and benefactions, this gift is mentioned without the name of the donor, the words "in the occupation of William Chapman" referring apparently to the date of the inscription, which is 1742, one hundred years later than the period of the donation, or rather date of the will.

† Christopher Toldervey, of Chatham, Esq., married Jane, daughter of Sir Thomas Harfleet, and died in 1618; and Richard Camden's second wife was Sarah, daughter of John Darrell, of Calehill, Esq., by the Lady Dorothy Harfleet, second wife and widow of Sir Thomas, and mother, or mother-in-law, of Jane Toldervey.

clerk and sexton as payment for keeping clean the Toldervey monument in Ash Church. The churchwardens to whom this bequest was made in trust were in that year Thomas Beere, senior, and John Solly, who, in conformity with the testator's directions, bought with the £20 an annuity, secured upon land, the property of Mr. Thomas St. Nicholas, of Hoden (son of the Thomas who died in 1626), who by his deed of the 24th of January, 1653, acknowledges the receipt of the £20, and charges the land in question, which was in Elmstone parish,* with the annual payment of twenty-five shillings accordingly.

The inaccuracy is easily to be accounted for, as there are entries in the Cess Books of receipts for £1. 5s. of Mr. St. Nicholas, as "a gift from Mr. Touldervy," and the original deed is actually endorsed "Toldervy Charity" instead of Camden Charity, which it certainly is, and, to increase the confusion, is occasionally so termed in the churchwardens' accounts.

It is amusing to examine local traditions, generally

* "All that my piece or parcel of arable land commonly called Hales Close, containing by estimation seven acres and a half, more or less, and now in the custody of me Thomas St. Nicholas, lying and being in the parish of Elmstone, in the county aforesaid."—(Original deed in the Muniment Chest in Ash Church.) Mr. Hasted says, "Mr. Thomas St. Nicholas, *who died in* 1626, left an annuity of £1. 5s. charged on his estate of Hoden, for the repairing and keeping clean of the Toldervy monument, &c." We have carefully examined the will, and it contains no such bequest.

founded to some extent upon facts, and see how ingeniously stories are constructed upon them. The bequest of five shillings for gloves to the churchwardens, in conjunction with that of five to the clerk and sexton "to look to the monument" of Christopher Toldervy, has given rise to a belief that the gloves were to be white, and that the churchwardens were to pass their hands in them over the monument, so as to detect the slightest dust or dirt if any remained upon it, in which case the clerk and sexton would lose their annual gratuity.

The only characteristic entry during the time of the Commonwealth is under the year 1655, when the churchwarden accounts for 6s., "received for a fine for Mr. William Baker, for his profane swearing in the parish of Ash."

From April, 1655, to the Restoration in 1660, no incumbent of Ash officiated at a marriage ceremony. The publication of the banns was made in Sandwich or other market-places, and the parties were married by a justice of the peace or the minister of another parish.

In 1660 there is an entry of 3d., paid "for setting up of the king's arms," and another of 5d. to the ringers upon "the King's Crownacion-day," which is all we find respecting the restoration of the Monarchy.

In 1662, however, there was 1s. 6d. given in relief to two women by order, "their husbands being killed in the king's service."

1665.

Paid to the ringers when the Duke of York's men lay in Ashe*	£0	6	0
For matting of my new pew (Robert Wood's, churchwarden)	0	2	0

1677.

Paid for one Bible forty-five shillings, and for one Common Prayer Book fourteen shillings, and the hoy-man† for bringing them down from London one shilling, (in) all	£3	0	0

1678.

Paid for a new Register Book for the registering of all persons buried in woollen, as was commanded	£0	3	0
Paid for the Act of Parliament to that end	0	0	6

By this Act, which was passed for the encouragement of the woollen trade, the parties contravening it were liable to a penalty of £5, and we accordingly find in the accounts for 1679: "Here followeth the names of those persons that received of the churchwardens of Ash the five pounds paid by David Den, of Eastry, for burying his son, John Den, of Ash, in linen, made payable by that Act made for burying

* After the Duke's great victory over the Dutch fleet, commanded by Tromp and Opdam, June 3rd, 1665.

† The Sandwich hoy stills runs to and from the port of London.

all persons in woollen,"—£2. 10s. being paid "to John Friend, informer," and the rest to the poor. The persecution of the Protestants in France, and their consequent emigration to England, is indicated in the year 1686 by the following entry:—

"May 30. Collected then towards the french protestants' Brief, in the parish of Ash next Sandwich, in the county of Kent, the sum of three pounds nine shillings and sixpence. (Signed) John Smith, deac.; William Price, and John May, churchwardens."

Of the great revolution of 1688 we find no distinguishable traces. The only remarkable entry during that year is under the date of May 7th:—

Given to 15 Welsh that had a warrant to collect the charity of all well-disposed people, 8 *parishes being drowned by the sea*..... £0 1 0

1689.

Gave to 14 poor distressed persons who had lost by sea and fire the sum of £2,750, and (some ?) of their husbands killed by a French Privateer, as appeared by their certificate 0 2 0

Immediately following the munificent distribution of two shillings amongst fourteen destitute and bereaved creatures, we read:—

Paid John Chandler for killing of an otter in our parish £0 2 6

Paid Stephen Cox for going to Canterbury for orders for the militia going to Canterbury at the same time £0 2 8

ffor writing these accoumps and soming of them up..... 0 2 6

The accomplished scholar who earned half a crown by the extraordinary feat just recorded, is not without a rival in these records. In the extraordinary expenses of Richard May, 1715-16, is the mysterious entry,—

Pd. a pon a particklear ocassion £1 7 6

As the date, however, is the 5th of November, we think it is a pretty clear occasion, and were we inclined to speculate, the delicate manner in which the Popish plot is alluded to would induce us to imagine Master Richard May was not the soundest of Protestant parish officers. There is little after this date to interest even the local reader, and we shall therefore conclude this section of our work with a few extracts from another set of books, containing the accounts of the overseers of the poor, as they illustrate the mode in which that portion of the parish business was conducted in the seventeenth century, and give us some insight into the nature and price of food, clothing, and other necessaries of life at that period.

In the first place, it appears that before the erection of the workhouse, one mode of dispensing out-door relief was to make agreements with certain parishioners to lodge and board, and sometimes to clothe, the pauper for a stipulated yearly or half-yearly

payment. One of the earliest entries in the first book, and the first year of the operation of the Act of Parliament 34th Queen Elizabeth before mentioned, is as follows: "Item, to Widdow Paramore for keeping of a poor maid child till she could be placed." We add two examples of agreements under the date of May 11th, 1676:—

"John Petley has agreed with the parishioners to keep Neave's girl this year for one pound and ten shillings, and he is to find her in all manner of clothing whatsoever."

"Frances Barrow has agreed with the parishioners to keep Susanna Dunkin for meat and drink, washing and lodging, this year, and the parish is to find her in all manner of clothing whatsoever."

Of miscellaneous items we have selected the following:—

1668.

	£	s.	d.
Paid Mr. Harflete for 18 sacks of coals for the poor	1	13	0
Paid for a pair of bodyes and a pair of hose (and) to Aprons for Manly's girle	0	5	9
Paid for a new hat and gloves	0	1	0
Paid Mrs. Licod for 16¾ yards of Kersie to cloath the poore	2	8	11
Paid her more for 36 yards of red cotton for the poore	3	2	4
Clothes for 20 poor persons, and such other necessary things as bee used to make them up	1	16	0
Paid for a pair of shoes for Fearmans boy..	0	2	0

1672.

Paid to Adam Jull for things the Widow Brown had in her sickness, and for letting Elizabeth Foat blood £0 6 3

Paid to Adam Jull for making a coat and hose and waiscoat for John Fairman, and for making Widdow White's suit ... 0 7 6

It would therefore appear that Dr. Jull, as he is in other entries described, paid attention in a double sense to the habits of body of the parishioners.

1677.

Amongst the accounts of this year some "mute inglorious Milton" has scrawled a few couplets, the most ingenious of which must surely have been inspired by the "Paradise Lost" and "Paradise Regained" of his great contemporary:—

"Christ in a garden was apprehended
Because in a garden Adam first offended."

To which is appended the following moral reflection:—

"I made a covenant with mine eyes,
Whyfore should I think upon a maid."

1678.

A hat for Gainsfords girle £0 3 0

Paid for canvas for a pair of britches for Gainsfords boy 0 1 0

A pair of shoes for Hobacks boy 0 2 4

Shoes vary from 9d. to 3s. per pair, of course according to size and description.

1683.

A pair of pattens for Moynes girl £0 1 4

1685.

For a pair of gloves for Rows boy £0 0 6

In this year the burial of a pauper cost thirteen shillings and threepence, as under :—

April 10th, for the laying forth of John Carter	£0	2	0
For his coffin, knell, and grave.....	0	9	0
For wool to bury him in.....	0	0	9
For his affidavit and register	0	1	6
	£0	13	3

This affidavit was the certifying that he was "buried in woollen."

1710.

On April 27th in this year, at a vestry held at the Lion, it was magnanimously "Ordered that every one who comes to a parish meeting shall spend his own money."

1712.

Paid Mr. Solly for cloathes as follows :

21 yards of cattaloon (challoon ?), at 5½d.

3 yards of blue cotton, at 16d.

3 ells and ¼ of *Ticklens* (? Bed ticking), at 10d.

1½ yard of cattaloon and cadis (a sort of wool), 9d.
3 ells of ossins (?), 2s. 6d.
5 ells of locker (in other accounts lockeram), at 10d.
A pair of leather bodies, 2s. 8d.
A bushel of wheat in this year cost 4s. 6d.

1714.

In this year coals cost 2s. 4d. per sack, "28s. a chalder," and "3 one-and-twenties of coals," £5. 5s.

1725.

In this year, under the date of March 30th, "It was agreed that Thomas Minter, Charles Horn, churchwardens, and David Denne, overseer, do build or hire, at y^e^ charge of y^e^ parish, a house for the use of the poor." And in

1730.

"It was agreed between the parishioners and Doctor Hogben, that y^e^ s^d^ Doctor shall look after all the poor in y^e^ workhouse, and all that receive weekly collection, for y^e^ sum of ten pounds per yeare, except broken bones, & what y^e^ overseers shall think fit to send him to which have not weekly collection, and for them he is to be paid as y^e^ overseers and he shall agree for; & in case y^e^ small-pox should be breef, for the s^d^ Doc^r^ to be allowed, & reasonable allowance."

A memorandum, dated June 25th of that year, informs us that Henry Eastman and his wife were "appointed for 7 years, at £10 per annum, and also meat, drink, and lodging, for looking after the poor

of the parish of Ash; and to have the lower room and chamber next the street, and to leave at a quarter's warning," which was apparently given them at Christmas, for in March, 1731, Leonard Bedo and his wife were appointed to replace the Eastmans.

Another entry of that year records—"Spent when Leonard Bedo was chosen master of the workhouse."

A few later entries, referring to the church, will be noticed in the section appropriated to its description; but the above extracts are sufficient to show the nature of the information to be derived from the parish records, and contain all we considered likely to amuse or enlighten our readers. Pages are occupied in entries of payments for all sorts of birds' heads by the dozen, and the only item during the rest of the century we thought worthy of transcription occurs in the accounts for the year 1765, viz.:—

"Paid Henry Foster for saving James Johncocke a wig, 1s."

The registers of baptisms, marriages, and burials commence as early as the month of November in the first year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, A.D. 1558; but the upper part of a leaf has been cut out of the oldest book, making a blank from July, 1561, to January, 156½, and from October 3, 1562, to April, 1563. There are also twelve years wanting of all the registers from 164$\frac{0}{1}$ to 1653. Omitting the names common to all the parishes of England—the inevitable Smiths, the celebrated firm of "Brown, Jones, and Robinson," the Whites, the Greens, and

the Blacks, and the equally popular appellations of Adams, Jackson, Johnson, Wilson, and other sons—the following are some of the most remarkable, and those of the principal families to be found in these valuable records :—Affeld, Alason, Allen, Ames, Androe, Anley, Ansell, Anselm, Arbeston, Aymis; Bax, Backett, Beake, Beere, Benskin, Bing, Bishop, Blaxland, Bonner, Boughton, Boykin, Bourne, Brompton, Burthen, Bushell; Camden, Carloil, Catt, Chandler, Chapman, Claringbold, Cleveland, Cock, Collins, Coleman, Coltson, Combe, Constant,* Cooke, Copp, Corke, Craythorne, Curling, Cutburne; Danc, Danton, Davy, Delmar, Dilnot, Dive, Dunkin; Elgar, Elvery, Elyot, Emptidge, Esdee; Fennell, Fidge, Foate, Foote, Forstall, Friend; Gammon, Gardner, Gibbs, Gifford, Godden, Godfrey, Gold, Goldstone, Goldup, Griggs; Harfleet, Harness, Hogben, Hougham, Howbancke, Huckstep; Innocent, Inkpet; Jethery, Johncock, Juddrey, Jull; Keeble, Kelsey, Kennett; Lacy, Lad, Landy, Laslett, Lass, Legnail, Legrand, Lettice, Lilly; Macket, Masters, Matson, Meriam, Mezday, Minter, Musred; Natau, Nott, Nunham; Omer, Onyon, Organ, Osborne; Paramour, Pay, Plosse, Peke, Ponte, Pordage, Prestly, Priggenden, Proude; Quested, Quillock; Ralph, Ratcliffe, Reist, Rigden, Rowe, Rye; Sacket, Saffery, St. Nicholas, Saltenstone, Seed, Sevenaker, Sherry, Sladden,

* A James *Constantinople* married Mary Simmons, Nov. 19, 1617. There is no repetition of the name.

Solly, Spaine, Storke, Stumble, Stupple, Swafford; Tappenden, Thrumb, Tilley, Tomlin; Umfield, Underdowne; Waaker, Whale, Wigg, Wild, Winalls.

William Lord Latimer, in the thirty-eighth year of the reign of Edward III., obtained license for a market to be held at Ash every Thursday, and an annual fair on Ladyday. The market has expired; but a few gingerbread-stalls and "knock'em downs" continue to do duty for "the fair" upon Old Ladyday and Old Michaelmas-day yearly, to the delight of small children, the amusement of waggoners' mates, and the advantage of the beer-shops.

Amongst other ancient customs, the curfew still

"Tolls the knell of parting day,"

and the "five o'clock bell," rung every morning, though it now only summons man "to go forth to his work and to his labour," formerly at the same hour called priest and people to "matins."

The number of communicants in 1588 was 500; in 1640 they had increased to 850; and from the registers it appears that from 1620 to 1820 the births had nearly doubled. The population in 1801 was 1,575; in 1821, 2,020; in 1831, 2,140. In 1841 there were 420 houses and 2,077 inhabitants; in 1851, 2,095 inhabitants; and at the last census, in 1861, the inhabited houses were found to be 438, uninhabited 11, and building 5; the males in number, 1,008; females, 1,031: total population, 2,039—a slight decrease during the last ten years.

ASH CHURCH, from the S.W.

F Waller, Lith. 18, Hatton Garden.

Piece of carved oak dug up in 1861.

CHAPTER IV.

THE CHURCH AND ITS MONUMENTS.

THE Parish Church of Ash stands nearly in the middle of the village, on the south side of the high-road running through it, crowning the brow of the hill which overlooks the valley of Staple. From its elevated position, its spire forms a conspicuous feature in the landscape for miles around. On the site it now occupies stood, according to tradition, a Druidical temple or altar. This tradition, purely local, is not supported by any testimony that we have been enabled to discover. No exhumation has brought to light, as at Guilton Town, relics which, if not corroborating the statement, might yet account for its origin. At the same time the circumstance is exceedingly probable: so exactly, indeed, what we should look for on such a spot, that, while we by no

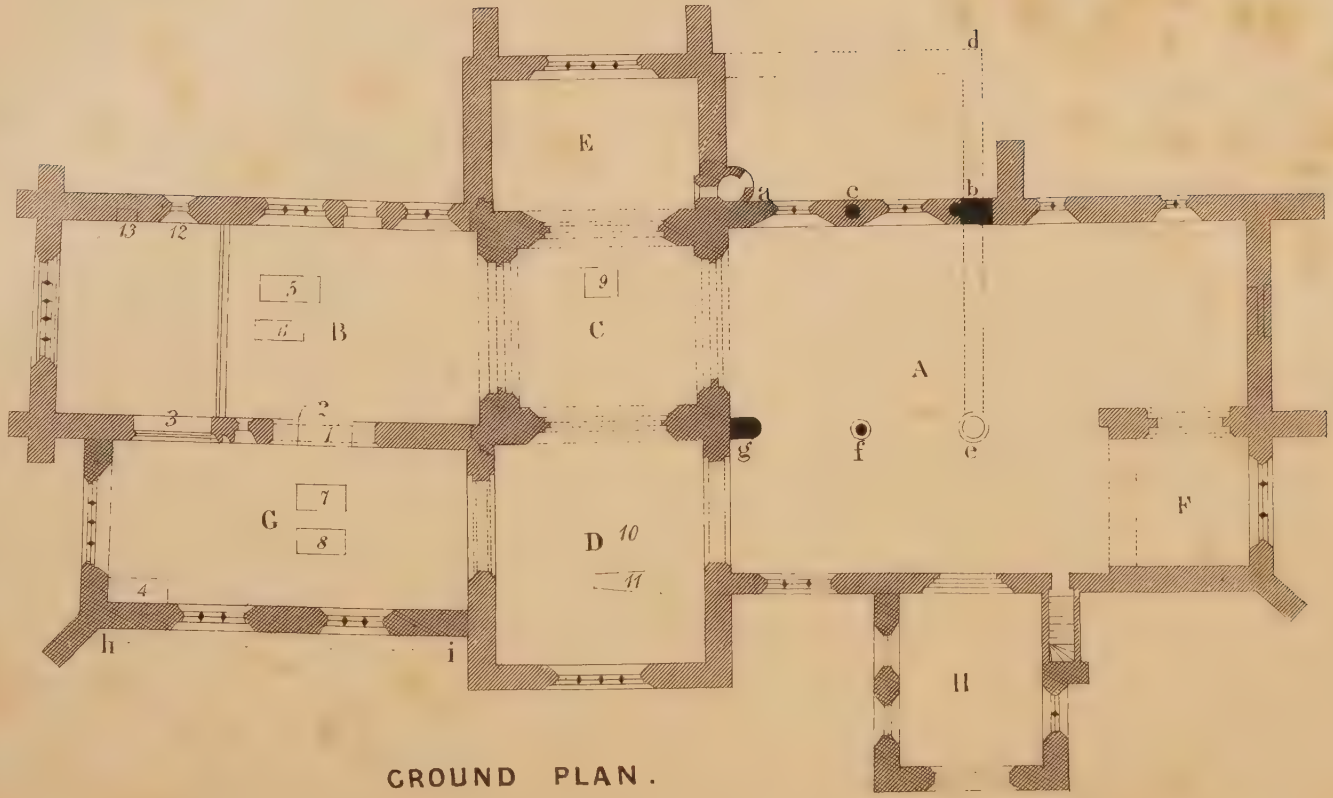
means insist on the truth of the story, we are unable to discard it as altogether unworthy of credence. No allusion has been made to it by Kilburne, Lambarde, Philipot, Harris, or Hasted; but we do not, on that account, hesitate to record the existence of such a tradition, leaving our readers to place their own value upon it. That an earlier Christian church, of Saxon or Norman erection, stood on this spot there can be little doubt, as a considerable portion of the foundation-walls was found on the north of the Molland chancel. The most ancient portions of the present edifice are of quite the close of the 12th and commencement of the 13th century, and no discovery has yet been made of any fragment of sculpture of an earlier date. During the recent thorough repair of the high chancel, a small piece of carved oak, apparently part of some stall,* was dug up, perfectly corresponding with the oldest portions of the architecture.

The general form of the church is that of a cross,† with a tower at the intersection, and

* *Vide* woodcut at the head of this chapter. That there were stalls in the choir here as late as the reign of Henry VIII. is clear from the will of Sir John Saunders, vicar of Ash in 1509, already quoted, as he bequeaths £4 for "the buying of a book called the Antiphonar for Holydays and Sundays, for (the) quire *on the vicar's side* in Ashe Church."

† For the architectural details and professional description of this interesting building we are indebted to the kindness of Mr. Edward Roberts, of Parliament-street, Westminster, F.S.A., one of the Honorary Secretaries of the British Archæological Association, the publications of which society contain abundant evidence of his industry and intelligence in the study of mediæval architecture.

ASH CHURCH. KENT.



GROUND PLAN.

SCALE.

PLATE 5

having the cathedral-like feature of a departure from a strictly rectangular plan, so as to give a leaning of the chancel towards the south, supposed to be indicative of the bent position of the body of our Saviour on the cross. This peculiarity of arrangement is too often repeated to be accidental; and we are too familiar with the exactitude of mediæval builders to believe that it was the result of error. In this particular case, the divergence from the straight line is so great as to become almost painfully visible, and is the more remarkable, not only from its extent, but from its being unusual in mere parish churches.

Its arrangement differs, apparently, from that of the earlier edifice in some respects, for the former had a tower, the remains of which are clearly to be seen at the north-west angle, now part of the north aisle, and this would seem to be the most ancient existing portion of the building, and of the time of the transition from Norman to Early English (*circa* 1190), the outer walls here having an appearance of greater age than in any other part, though, being all composed of flints and boulders, it is not so easy to distinguish earlier from later work, as where different and more perishable materials have been used. It may be doubtful if there was at the same time a central tower also—most likely not; although it rarely if ever happened that a cruciform church was altogether without one, or some arrangement which took the place of one, so as to avoid the very common

system of the present day of crossing the timbers of the roof at the intersection, and enabling them to abut the roofs against masonry. The present tower, however, has been stuck in bodily from the foundation. This will be referred to presently. The sub-arrangement of the church is into a nave, with a north aisle and north porch, a tower and transepts, the north transept being larger than the south by reason of the aisle beyond which it extends, a chancel of great length, with a north chancel beside it. There has been, also, a south aisle or chapel, with two bays, the piers and arches of the arcade remaining in the present walls, which have been filled in; the shafts and capitals, as far as they are visible, appearing to be of the same date as those on the opposite side of the nave; viz., from 1200 to 1220.

Let us now apply ourselves to the details, taking first those of the nave or body of the church. Looking from west to east, we have behind us the large modern western window and restored door, both, however, in the position of their predecessors. On the left we have, first, the base of the old tower, then three equilateral arches of the same size and shape (date from 1200 to 1220), with hood mouldings on both faces, and with responds or abutments at each end of the arcade. The first respond has a corbel in lieu of a shaft. The two shafts beyond are (beneath the cap mouldings, which are alike) dissimilar in all other respects, save that of material, both being built of Kentish rag; the smaller

one, however, has certainly been inserted, probably at the time the central tower was built, as there are no appearances of large rag-stones in other parts than where alterations are evident.

The nearer and larger shaft is in eleven unequal courses of small stones, 5 feet $4\frac{3}{4}$ inches high in all, and 23 inches diameter. This is certainly in substitution of something which preceded it; the other may be original,—*i.e.*, coincident with the first alteration or rebuilding, when only the west tower was left standing. The shaft in the respond is similar to the last described, and was most likely built at the same time as the tower. This seems to confirm the view already taken, that the one shaft is original and the other two are later, although in imitation; and it is further strengthened by a red colour, of which there are evident traces on the entire shaft and base.

At each pier is a corbel projecting into the nave: there has been a depression in their upper surface, showing that something was to have lain in them.

On our right hand, or south side, we have firstly an inserted window, of about the date 1400, and two quite recent windows beyond in the filling in of the spaces of the old arcade, which led into the demolished aisle or chapel before mentioned. The buttress outside has been added, and in other respects there appear to have been great alterations, the use of similar materials tending, as we have before observed, to defeat the judgment as to age. Inside, however, Caen stone has been used—always a sign of early

work. The shafts of this arcade cannot be seen at all from the interior: could they be perfectly examined, they would most probably be found to correspond in material and workmanship with the large one opposite to them.

The north aisle is, including the old tower, of the same length as the nave. Three sides of the tower remain, about fifteen feet high. The north porch and priest's chamber, or vestry, above it, are new, but occupy the same position as those which preceded them. They were rebuilt in 1848, chiefly at the expense of the Rev. Edward Penny, then the incumbent here, and now rector of Great Mongeham, Deal. On each side of the old porch were compartments of stonework, once ornamented with brasses, "most probably," says Hasted, "in remembrance of some of the family of Harflete, several of whom lie buried on the north side of the churchyard;" but the brasses, as well as the tombs, were all gone in his time.* In 1663-4, the sum of £3. 15s. was paid to

* Mr. Bryan Faussett, in his Church Notes, taken in 1760, says, "On each side of the entrance to the porch is an ancient monument. They both have been adorned with brasses, which, together with their inscriptions, are now lost." Hasted alludes to the tombs of Thomas Atcheker, otherwise Harfleet, and his father, Raymond Harfleet, as the former in his will, proved 29th January, $15\frac{59}{60}$, desires to be buried in the *churchyard* of Ash, on the north side, where his father lieth, and that a tombstone be laid over his father, with sculpture of his name, mentioning the day of his death, and *without picture;* and another tombstone to be laid over himself, with sculpture mentioning his name and day of his death, and *without picture.* As the tombs Mr. Faussett describes had been adorned with

the painter "for painting the church porch, and writing the sentences there, for shadowing the outside of the great doors, and for painting the *screenes*," &c.

The window beyond the porch is modern. At the east end of the aisle is an early arch, one pier of which was rebuilt when the central tower was inserted, and shows a different impost from that on the opposite side. This arch is perhaps thirty years later than the nave, and would induce us to think the transept an addition to it, and we find that it was formerly called the Chapel of St. Thomas the Martyr. The tower, when built, converted it into a transept proper. In this transept recently stood the organ, and a gallery of modern erection, both of which have been judiciously removed.* At the east end is an

brasses, they could not have been those of Thomas and Raymond Harfleet, which appear to have been flat gravestones, with name and date of death cut upon them, and without pictures—*i. e.*, brasses. John Harfleet, of Ash, son of Thomas above mentioned, also desires to be buried "in the churchyard of Ashe, on the north side, where my father lieth." Will proved September 19, 1581. But "the compartments of stonework" described by Hasted were evidently in the sides of the porch itself, and the disappearance of the brasses, which must have been before 1613, is much to be lamented.

* On taking down the organ (December, 1863) the remains of fresco paintings, borders, and inscriptions were found on the walls, but unfortunately too dilapidated to trace or decipher. On the east wall, the naked feet and lower portion of the red robe of a figure were discernible. The borders seem to have been black bands with rows of white or yellow roundels on them. Of the inscriptions (probably texts) not one word was perfect enough to render it legible. While superintending the works in progress for the restoration of this transept, the Rev. H. S. Mackarness (the present incumbent) dis-

archway of the fourteenth century, leading out of the transept into the north or Molland chancel. There are here two corbels, carved in the shape of human heads, with the hair arranged in the peculiar curl which distinguishes the figures of the time of Edward I. and II.; but they have been sadly mutilated, indeed all but destroyed, in the erection some years ago of a wooden partition, now happily removed, converting the chancel into a school-room for the girls of the Cartwright Charity, the boys occupying the vestry above the porch previous to its reconstruction in 1840.

There is an oaken screen here of the sixteenth century. We have seen the painter was paid for painting the *screenes* in the church in 1663-4.

This chancel was anciently called St. Nicholas' chancel, and the remains of string-courses of early thirteenth-century work show that up to a certain point there are portions of the old walls standing. This is visible at the east end, where the string is

covered a stone coffin of the thirteenth century, on the lid of which was sculptured a cross, planted on three steps (called, heraldically, "a cross degreed or degraded"), the form of which is rather uncommon, the transverse limb of the cross curving like the guard of an ancient sword. The coffin had evidently been opened, and the contents disturbed, the skull and other portions of the skeleton of an adult person being mixed up with large flint boulders and rubbish of every description. The lid, of great weight, considerably overlapped the coffin. The upper half of another lid, quite plain, was dug up near it. A small fragment of painted glass out of the old window was found at the same time, with a pattern upon it, from which the borders above mentioned seem to have been imitated.

surmounted by a modern window. On the north side are two recently inserted windows, carefully copied from those they have replaced; and an altar tomb of the fifteenth century, under a canopy slightly earlier. The tomb itself is of Purbeck marble, and is supposed to have been removed from some other part of the church, and put into a recess with which it does not in any way correspond, being too long and too dwarfed. Upon it have been placed the alabaster effigies of John Septvans, Esquire of the Body to King Henry VI., who founded a chantry here, called the chantry of the Upper Hall, as appears by the will of his widow Katharine, dated April 14, 1495. We have much to say on this subject when we come to describe the monuments, but necessarily mention this particular fact here as it is probable that the alterations made in the fifteenth century in this chancel took place at the time of the foundation of the chantry aforesaid. In 1540 we find payment "to Sir Thomas Bruer, chauntry priest of the chauntry of John *Stevyn*, in the church of Ashe, for land, and tenements by the yeare, £vij, £vi, £viii: thereof to be deducted for one obyte, to be yearly kept in the said church of Ashe, v$^{s.}$"* John Stevyn has been ludicrously perverted into Saint Stephen by Hasted or his informant, the name of the founder being mistaken for that of the Christian protomartyr. It is just possible that Stevyn may be itself

* Valor Ecclesiasticus, temp. Henry VIII.

one of the many corruptions of the name of Septvans, which has undergone, as we shall hereafter show, the most extraordinary transformations. In that case the chantry so dedicated would be the same as that of the Upper Hall which we have just mentioned; but we must not omit to state that there was an ancient family here of Stiven (Stephyn, Stephen), one of whom married Alice, daughter of John Solly, of Pedding and Woodnesborough, *ante* 1624, and that there may have been a separate chantry founded by an ancestor of that family.* There was another in this church named "the chantry of Our Blessed Lady," suppressed with the rest in first year of the reign of Edward VI., when that of Our Lady was returned to be of the clear value of £15. 11s. 1½d., the lands with which it was endowed consisting, amongst other premises, of a house and fourteen acres of land in Ash, which were granted to Richard Monins and Thomas Wotton, Esqs., and they sold them again to Thomas Atchecquer, *alias* Harfleet.† Those belonging to John Stevyn's chantry consisted of a messuage, barn, &c., in Ash,

* Sampson Stevyn is named in the will of Sampson Style, of Middleton, dated 12th August, 1464; and the will of Christiana Stephyn was proved 16th November, 1498.

† By his will, proved 29th January, 1559-60, he bequeaths to his son Christopher Harfleet, with other property, his principal messuage, and nine pieces of land, containing fourteen acres, in Ash, late belonging to the late chantry of Our Lady in Ash aforesaid, which he bought of Richard Monnyngs (Monins) and Thomas Wotton, Esqs.—(Prerog. Off. Canterbury.)

F. Waller, Lith. 18, Hatton Garden.

W. G. Smith. L

View from the South Transept looking through the High Chancel into the Wolland Chancel.

From a Photograph by Mr W. Dixon

and 220 acres of arable, 30 acres of pasture, and 8 acres of marsh land, in the parishes of St. Nicholas and Monkton, Thanet, granted to Cheney, and held in capite. The land charged with the annual payment of twenty shillings to the chantry of the Upper Hall is simply stated in the will of Septvans's widow to be "that which lyeth or beith next to the said chantry," which must therefore have been in the village of Ash.

The piscina in this chancel is of the fifteenth century. A priest's door (restored) communicates with the high chancel, called also the south chancel and the Guilton chancel, and in the fourteenth century designated, as already stated, the chancel of Our Lady. The wall on each side the door is pierced with arches appropriated to monuments of the families of Goshall and Leverick. The most important and peculiar is the one towards the west. The arch and jambs are in rag-stone, with imposts of the same; the former are chamfered, and the imposts with a slightly hollowed moulding. The sill of the opening is sunk out for the reception of a recumbent figure, and has a sculptured trefoil border, so arranged as to be perfectly finished at the ends, or, technically, mitred, and returning through the opening. The work is well executed, very elegant, and with all the character and spirit of the sculpture of the early part of the fourteenth century. On the east side the door is a beautifully-canopied tomb, of the latter half of the fourteenth century, with three traceried and crocketed

gablets, with curved outline. The portions of those which remain are very judiciously left untampered with. The recess is groined in three bays, and the back is pierced with an opening into the north chancel, as already stated. Of the effigies on these two tombs we shall speak anon.

In the south wall of this chancel is a trefoil-headed piscina, with round corbels (date about 1200), above it a lancet-headed window of the same period, beside it an aumbry, and two other windows of later dates, one on each side of the priest's door, which is modern.

Mr. Hasted simply informs us that "in the windows formerly were to be seen the armorial bearings of Septvans, alias Harflete, Notbeame, Brook, Ellis, Clitherow, Oldcastle, Keriell, and Hougham, and the figures of a St. Nicholas, a Keriell, and a Hougham, kneeling in armour, with their surcoats of arms; but all these were long ago demolished."

Amongst the Additional MSS. in the British Museum,* however, are Mr. Hasted's own copies of a collection of drawings and notes taken in Ash Church on the 20th of November, 1613; and from these valuable memorials we are enabled to supply some most interesting details, not only of these windows, but of several of the monuments which were then in existence. We have also had the good

* "Peter le Neve's Church Notes," (Add. MSS. No. 5479). The originals appear, by Mr. Hasted's account, to have been lent to him by Joseph Edmonson.

fortune to be permitted to examine the MS. Church Notes of that indefatigable and learned antiquary the Rev. Bryan Faussett, taken in 1760, and now in the possession of his great-grandson, Mr. T. Godfrey Faussett, from which we have obtained corroborative and conclusive evidence on some highly important genealogical points, as will appear in the progress of this and the following chapter.

From these combined sources of authentic information, we have formed the following list of shields of arms that adorned the "storied panes" of St. Nicholas, Ash, in the seventeenth century :—

1. Gules, a lion rámpant argent.

2. Argent, a plain cross gules.

These two were existing as late as 1760, and are stated by Mr. Bryan Faussett to have been in the "westmost window;" by which we presume he meant the original window over the west door.

3. Azure, three winnowing fans or : Septvans, alias Harfleet.

4. Gules, a fess nebulée ermine : Notbeame.

5. Or, on a chevron azure three leopards' heads of the first : Leverick.

6. Argent, on a fess between six cross-crosslets azure three plates : Ellis of Sandwich.

7. Or, a cross sable (Brockhull ?)

8. Ermine, on a chief, three lions rampant : Aucher.

9. Septvans quartering Twitham, Sandwich, Ellis, Brooke of ——, Wolfe, and Wyborne, as in the win-

dows at Molland, and on the brass of Christopher Harfleet in the north chancel.

10. Party per bend; two eagles displayed counterchanged: Brooke of Brooke Street.

11. Party per chevron, embattled argent and sable, three mullets counterchanged, within a bordure engrailed ermine: Stoddard of Mottingham.

12. Argent, three cups sable: Clitherow, impaling argent, a castle tripled towered sable: Oldcastle.

13. Clitherow, as above, impaling argent, three bugle horns in pale sable.

It is not stated in what particular window or windows the last eleven were situated; but it is probable that they were, for the most part, in the north chancel.

The following fourteen, and the four kneeling figures, we are strongly inclined to believe, from the particular order in which they are drawn on one page of the MS., adorned the great window at the east end of the high chancel. At top, ranged four and three, are:—

1. Or, two chevrons and a canton gules: Keriel, impaling Clitherow, as above.

2. . . . . a chevron between three wolves' heads: Wolfe, impaling Clitherow, as before.

3. Clitherow impaling . . . . . three bugle horns, two and one.

4. . . . . a chevron inter ten cross-crosslets . . . . . impaling . . . . . on a chevron . . . . . three lions rampant: (Cobham ?)

5. Argent, three bars sable, impaling (Cobham ?), as above.

6. Clitherow impaling Oldcastle, as before.

7. Oldcastle quartering party per pale . . . . . a double-headed eagle displayed . . . . .

Beneath these seven shields are ranged in a line the four figures, three male and one female, all in the costume of the fifteenth century, kneeling on cushions.

1. Male figure in armour, temp. Henry VI. or Edward IV., with tabard of arms. Ermine, a chief quarterly or and gules, an annulet for difference in first quarter: St. Nicholas of Thanet. This figure most probably represented John St. Nicholas, who died in 1462. See Note 13 ante, p. 9.

2. Male figure in armour, with tabard of arms. Or, two chevrons and a canton sable. If not a mistake, a variation of the coat of Criol or Keriel. If intended to represent John Keriel, the husband of Joan Clitherow, the canton should have been differenced by a crescent. Notwithstanding these discrepancies, the result perhaps of error, we are inclined to assign it to the aforesaid John, of whom more hereafter.

3. Male figure in armour with tabard, on which are drawn: Argent, on a chevron between three elephant's heads erased sable, as many mullets or. This coat, with different colours, is found quartered with that of Brooke, in the "Visitation of Kent," A.D. 1619, and this figure is underwritten "Solomon

Hougham." We shall have occasion to return to this subject in our fifth chapter.

4. A lady in the costume of the fifteenth century, wearing a mantle on which are the arms of Wolfe, as quartered with Clitherow in the shield above mentioned. This figure is underwritten "The Wife of Keriell;" but this must be simply the note of the writer. This is also an interesting point for discussion hereafter. There are no arms of Keriel on any part of her dress.

Beneath these four figures are ranged seven more shields of arms, in two lines, four and three, as the seven above.

1. Septvans, with a crescent for difference.

2. Barry of six pieces nebulée argent and gules: De Campania, or Champion, of Champions Court, co. Kent, impaling St. Nicholas.*

3. St. Nicholas, with annulet for difference, as on armed figure just described.

4. De Campania impaling argent three birds marked "proper." (Query, Crows for Corbet?)†

5. De Campania, impaling chevron between ele-

* This is curious. John St. Nicholas married Margaret, daughter and heir of Simon de Campania (*vide* Chapter V.): but here we have the indication of one of the Campania family having taken to wife a St. Nicholas.

† This again is noteworthy. Catharine, daughter of John de Campania and Margery his wife, married a Corbet: but this shield, like the former (note, *ante*), would indicate exactly the reverse; the arms of Campania being on the baron or dexter side.

phants' heads, as on the tabard of Solomon Hougham above mentioned.*

6. De Campania impaling De Campania.†

7. Keriel impaling Wolfe, corroborating the statement, "The Wife of Keriell," under the female figure above described.

The herald and genealogist will at once perceive the valuable information that may be drawn from these records, in illustration of the very imperfect and inaccurate pedigrees at present existing of these fine old Kentish families. We shall do our best in the next chapter to elucidate some of the vexed questions; but there will be still much to do for our successors in these researches. The grand east window, which we have here most probably recalled to us, had been demolished before 1760, when Mr. Bryan Faussett took his notes, and was most probably then succeeded by the plain one which was in existence till 1855, when an exceedingly handsome memorial window, designed and executed by Mr. Williment, F.S.A., was put up by the late Miss Friend, of Ash.‡ Beneath it is the following inscrip-

* Indicating a match with either Sanders or Hougham.

† We have here evidence of the intermarriage of two of the same family; but as yet have found no such match in the scattered notices of the Campanias.

‡ We lament to add that this estimable lady was burned to death at the residence of her sister, at Felderland, near Sandwich, April 15th, 1862, in the 75th year of her age; having fallen into the fire, it is presumed in a fit, while sitting alone in her apartment.

tion:—"Dedicated to the memory of William and Sarah Friend, by their affectionate daughter, Ann Friend, December 25th, A.D. 1855.

From the will of William Norrys, of Ash, it appears that in 1486 there was an "image of St. Mary Magdalene" in the chancel, either in statuary or painting. That there were stalls in it at a very early period, and as late as the beginning of the sixteenth century, we have already stated; and pews as early as 1573-4, in which year Edward Stoughton, by will proved February 16th, desires to be buried in Our Lady's chancel of Ash, against his pew there. Of the rood-screen the only remains are the lower portions of panelled oak.

The heavy altar-piece and massive rails with which the chancel was "beautified," according to the taste of the eighteenth century, and out of the £100 bequeathed by Eleanor and Ann Cartwright in 1721 (see page 114 and list of benefactions), were replaced by the present, and a new pulpit and reading-desk also erected from a fund provided by Bishop Nixon, while incumbent of Ash, 1838–42, from the sale of the later editions of his excellent work, "Lectures on the Church Catechism;" and in 1861 the chancel was thoroughly repaired and newly roofed and paved, at the expense of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, and under the direction of Mr. Ewan Christian, their architect.

The south transept appears to have undergone

considerable repairs in the year 1675, as in almost every portion of the outer wall stones are to be seen inscribed with the names of various officers and inhabitants of the parish, all bearing the same date. Amongst the most legible are the following:—"John Saffery, of Checquer, Churchwarden, 1675." "Geoarge Jay, 1675." "Henry Proud, 1675." "John Fidge, 1675." "Martha...ampson, 1675." "John Brice, 1675." "James Kingsland's stone, 1675." "Thomas Sayer, ...75."

We now come to the tower, the style of which is almost of debased Perpendicular, or beginning of sixteenth century. It may have been built at three different periods; one stage at a time. The large piers inside the church are almost, if not quite, unique for the size of the stones, which are about 6 feet long, 4 feet wide, and 2 feet thick, and, for ragstone, very unusual. The south aisle, or chapel, had evidently been destroyed before the building of the tower. Over the arch, at the entrance to the high chancel, is a board, with the following inscription:—"This belfry was raised and rebuilt by Thomas Beake and Richard Laslett, churchwardens, 1750."

This was in consequence of the fall of the great clock-weight, which broke through the flooring of the belfry and ceiling of the tower—providentially when the church was empty, as it crushed everything it came in contact with.

In 1760, Mr. Bryan Faussett found five bells in the belfry, on which were the following inscriptions:—

1. (Only the date remains) ... 1581.
2. Joseph Hatch made me ... 1615.
3. Joseph Hatch made me ... 1620.
4. Joseph Hatch made me ... 1620.
5. Henry Wilner made me ... 1661.

The present white marble font appears to have been given to the church by Robert Minchard* and Abraham Fennell, churchwardens, in 1726, which date, with their initials, is also on the poor-box. Their names in full are engraved on the font, together with the arms of the Minchard family, a mullet within the horns of a crescent; but in 1664 there is in the churchwardens' accounts the following entry: "Pd. Mr. Thomas St. Nicholas, *Esq.*, for the ffunt, £1. 0s. 0d." And in a payment to a painter immediately following, one of the items is "for painting the ffunt."

We are left to conjecture whether this was a new font of common stone purchased of Mr. St. Nicholas, or whether these expenses were incurred for the repair of an ancient one.

Beside the items we have already extracted from the accounts for 1634 (*vide* page 153), the following, relating to repairs of the church, its pews and ornaments, the bells, churchyard-gates,

* Robert Minchard married Elizabeth, widow of Thomas Peke, of Hills Court, Esq., who died in 1701, and in her right held the manors of Hills Court and Levericks during his lifetime.

walls, &c., may have some interest for our local readers :—

1635.

Item, first for timber to repair the steeple, with all the carrying and recarrying ...	£9	11	0
To Justed the plumber for changing old lead for new and laying it on the steeple	83	2	11

1641.

For the ringers and the workmen when the bells were a hanging, and when the bell founders came to see them hanged..	0	8	6
More laid out for changing the communion flaggon	0	4	0
Item, paid to Henry Willner of Borden for casting the bell and the bell *brasses* for the third bell, and the little bell.....	6	15	8

1652.

Paid to the churchwardens of Littlebourne for carrying the bell to the bell-founders	1	0	0
Paid to Simon Brice for his journey to bargain with the churchwardens to carry the bell.....	0	1	0
Paid to Thomas Sanders for carrying the bell to Littlebourne.....	0	3	4
Paid the glazier for glazing and leading the church windows	6	19	8½

1655.

For a frame for the hour-glass*	£0	1	0

1661.

Paid Richard Fidge for himself and labourers for work done about the church wall, the church gate-house, the church and church-house	3	10	1
Paid for a lock and key for the chancel door	0	5	0

1662.

To Richard Fidge for whiting and colouring the church and finding all materials for the same.....	2	10	0

1663-4.

Paid John Harris for 5 days' work about the church, and a table for the commandments	0	8	4
Paid to Edwards the painter for writing the commandments and for flourishing of the hand doors and the great doors and the pillars.....	8	0	0

1665.

"For matting of my pew" [Robert Woods then churchwarden]	0	2	0

* An hour-glass was an almost universal appendage to a pulpit during the 16th and 17th centuries. The ironwork of the holders was sometimes of the most elaborate and tasteful description.

In the Register of Baptisms for 1744, p. 88, there is the following note by B. Longley, curate:—

"In the year 1744, Thomas Jull and Henry Minter, churchwardens, built the north wall [of the churchyard], and coped it with stone, and made a new gate at the east end. The gate at the west end, with the piers, were put up some years before by the father of the said H. Minter and John May, churchwardens."

In 1779 the Molland chancel needed repairs, and Mrs. Allen, the owner of the manor of Molland at that time, was called upon to repair it. On her refusal so to do, proceedings were taken against her, and the suit being heard before the Dean of Arches in Trinity Term that year, it was decreed that she should forthwith repair it, and certify the same by the first day of Michaelmas term next afterwards, and was condemned to pay the full costs of suit.

In 1791, £161. 1s. 9d. was paid "as per bill" for casting a new peal of bells; and "at the opening of the new peal of bells," £2. 13s. 0d. "To William Bushell for carrying the bells, £1. 1s. 0d.;" and "to Thomas Jull, junior, for ditto, 15s."

These bells are eight in number, and bear on them the names of Robert Tomlin and Richard Sutton, churchwardens, with those of the founders, "Thomas Mears, late Lester Pack and Chapman, of London," with the date 1790. In the belfry is a board with the following information in gold letters:—

QUEX INSTITUTION.

J. P. POWELL, ESQ., PATRON AND FOUNDER.

On Saturday, the 18th of February, 1826, was rung on these Bells Holt's true and complete Peal of grandsire trebels, consisting of 5,040 changes, with 98 Bobs and 2 Singles, in 3 hours and 4 minutes, by the undermentioned persons, members of the above Institution. This was the first true peal ever rung in this steeple, though the bells have been hung 36 years.

Willm Darley, Treble	Willm Clark, 5th
John Beer, 2nd	George Francis, 6th
James Carter, 3rd	Robert Ryall, 7th
John White, 4th	Nathl Brewer, Tenor.

Conducted by John Beer.

Thomas Coleman, Geoe Quested } Churchwardens.

On the north wall of the north aisle of the church is a board with the following :—

Lands,

Tenements, and Benefactions,

in Ash.

Imprimis, one house in the street called ye Church house, with 2 garden plotts of 12 perches.

Item, 4 acres and a ½ of land in Chapman Street, now in the occupation of Thomas Horn.

Item, another piece of land containing 40 perches, in ye occupation of William Chapman. As to these 3 articles see the terrier.*

* The terrier is unfortunately no longer to be seen. The third article is the donation attributed to Mr. Richard Camden by Hasted.

Item, 1 pound 5 shillings on account of y^e^ Toldervey Monument, 10 shillings of which is for looking after y^e^ said monument, and 15 shillings every Christm'ss for y^e^ poor. See Thos. St. Nicholas, Esq., his deed.

Item, in y^e^ years 1720 and 1721. Gervas Cartwright, Esq., and his sisters did for y^e^ teaching 50 poor children to read, write, etc., endow a charity school for ever with an estate in land to the yearly value of 31 pounds. See y^e^ deed of gift in y^e^ chest,* and y^e^ tombstone within the rails of the communion table.

Item, Mrs. Eleanor and Mrs. Ann Cartwright (y^e^ sisters of the above gentleman), besides y^e^ hand they had in y^e^ said great charity, gave an 100 pounds for beautifying the chancel and providing 2 large pieces of plate for the communion service.

* The chest alluded to is engraved from a drawing by Miss Godfrey, of Brooke House, and graces the head of Chapter II. It is kept in the vestry over the porch, and presents us with a fine specimen of a coffer of the 15th century. It is strongly banded with iron, and has three padlocks, one of which secures an iron rod passing through staples over the bands connected with the other two. Edward Stoughton, of Ashe, by his will, proved February 16, 1573, bequeaths to Joel his son, amongst other things, "his coffer with lock and key and bound with iron, in his counting-house, wherein his evidences, deeds, and escripts are." In the marriage contract between Sir John Stafford and Anne Bottereaux, March 16, 1426, the Lord William Bottereaux is required to deliver to the Prior of Bath all the charters, evidences, &c., in "a coffer locked with three divers locks." . . . . "One of the keys of the said coffer to be delivered to the Prior, to remain in the keeping of him and his successors; another key to the said Lord; and the third to the said John and Anne, to remain with them and the heirs of their body."

See the paten and flagon. Soon after Mrs. Susanna Roberts* added 2 other pieces of plate for collecting the offertory. See the said pieces :

Francis Conduitt Curat. M.D.CCXLII. } Rich[d] Horn and Will[m] Leger } Church Wardens, 1742.

W[m] Pilcher pinxit . Deal.

Beside it, on another board :—

ST. NICHOLAS,
ASH.

Benefactions and Donations.

1813.

Grant from the Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty towards the purchase and enlargement of the Vicarage, and the purchase of Glebe land attached thereto	£600	0	0

1818.

Mrs. Elizabeth Godfrey, widow of Thos. Godfrey, Esq., towards ditto.	£500	0	0
John Minet Fector, Esq., ditto	50	0	0
Rev. Chas. James Burton, ditto	50	0	0
Grant from the Governors of the Fund for the Augmentation of Small Livings, ditto	900	0	0
	£2,100	0	0

* A tablet to her memory and that of her husband is on the south wall of the chancel, within the rails of the communion table.

John Minet Fector, Esq., by bequest to the minister, which sum the Rev. Chas. James Burton gave towards the support of the Sunday school £10 0 0

1819.

Mrs. Elizabeth Godfrey, by gift of deed in the Court of Chancery, in trust to the trustees of the Cartwright Charity, all those messuages and tenements, with their appurtenances, comprising the girls' schoolroom and adjoining cottage.

1832.

Mrs. Elizabeth Godfrey, by bequest, in trust to the trustees of the Cartwright Charity..... 1000 0 0

With which sum (less the legacy duty), was purchased in the 3 per Cent. Consols, £993. 2s. 2d. in the names of W. F. Boteler, Esq., and Wm. Friend, Esq., her executors, producing the yearly interest of £29. 15s. 1d., to be appropriated to the repairs of the above-named messuages, etc.

And the surplus, if any, to be expended in coats, to be distributed annually to the deserving poor residing in the parish.

Rev. Charles Forster, Curate.
George Quested
Richard Holtum } Churchwardens, 1839.

A third board records that:—

"The Master and Fellows of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, gave a piece of land to the Incumbent and Churchwardens of Ash, for the site of an Infant School.

"Mr. Thos. Kelsey built an Infant School, at his own expense, on the site so given, and in August, 1860, Mr. Kelsey conveyed by deed of gift to the Incumbent and Churchwardens of Ash for ever, and to three trustees, Messrs. Thos. Coleman, John Maylam, and James Petley, lands and tenements in the parish of Ash, of the then yearly value of £68, for the perpetual endowment of the said Infant School."

Goodban Charity.

Interest of £100, 3 per Cent. Stock, to be given away at Christmas.

Mrs. Mary Wood is now endowing the parish with £300 Bank Stock, the interest, after providing for the due preservation of her sister's monument, to be expended in warm clothing for poor females in Ash, at the discretion of the Vicar and Churchwardens.*

* While recording charities, we may mention that John Malyn, by will proved 10th January, 1473, bequeathed "To the lazars of Eche (Ash), near Sandwich, iiij^{d}." It is probable, therefore, that there was a lazar-house somewhere in this parish at that period, but we have found no other indication of it.

The Monuments.

The most ancient sepulchral effigy now extant in the church, is that of a knight, cross-legged, lying under an arch on the left of the doorway passing from the high chancel to the Molland chancel. It has been appropriated by tradition to Sir John de Goshall, who lived in the time of Edward III.; but the costume contradicts that assertion: and if it be indeed the effigy of a Sir *John*, it must be that of his grandfather, who possessed two knight's fees in Goldstanton and Goshall in the reigns of Henry III. and Edward I. The figure is represented in a long surcoat, open in front, of a form recalling to us that of Edmund Crouchback, Earl of Lancaster, in Westminster Abbey; but this effigy presents us with the additional feature of those singular defences for the shoulder called *ailettes*, which first make their appearance towards the close of the reign of Edward I., but were not common previous to that of his son and successor Edward II. In the will of Daniel Hole, quoted by Hasted (Hist. Kent, vol. III. page 692, note), the testator desires to be buried in the chancel of Ash Church, near the tomb of Sir John Goshall;* showing that as early as

* "With a fair gray marble tombstone and superscription in brass for that he and his ancestors had lived at Goshall for an hundred years and upwards." We have not succeeded in finding his name in the burial registers of this parish. David Hole and others of the name occur, but no Daniel. Neither is there any fair gray marble stone remaining near the tomb of John de Goshall that would answer to the description.

1617, the date of that document, unless some other monument has disappeared, the name of John had been associated with this effigy. But for this fact, we should have been inclined to attribute it to Sir Henry de Goshall, probably son of the first, and father of the second Sir John, who was seised of Goshall in the reign of Edward II. In that case the female effigy in the cavity beneath, which is coeval with it, might have been fairly assumed to represent Margaret, daughter of Thomas, and sister of Nicholas de Sandwich, of Checquer, the wife of Henry de Goshall, as we have stated at page 65. There is nothing, however, in the costume of either effigy to forbid our admitting them to be those of the first Sir John and his lady, both of whom were living in the reign of Edward I., and probably did not die before the accession of Edward II.* The male figure has been engraved for the Journal of the Archæological Institute, in illustration of a paper by Mr. Hewitt, who erroneously attributes it to one of the Leverick family. Our sketch of it is from the opposite side, showing the broken shield on which, in Philipot's time, were visible the arms of the Goshalls: . . . . . semée of cross-crosslets . . . . . a lion rampant crowned, as visible on the seal attached to a deed of the 7th of Edward III., preserved amongst

* There was a Final Concord between John de Goshall and Henry Leverick and Margery his wife, in the thirty-fourth and *last* year of the reign of Edward I., A.D. 1306.—(*Vide* page 95.)

Fig 1. Effigy of Sir John Goshall. p. 203.

Fig. 3.
Capital in Nave.

Fig 4.

Fig. 5.

Fig. 6.
Lid of Stone Coffin.

Fig 7.
Portion of the Septvans seat discovered 1864.

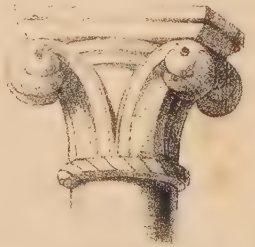


Fig 8.

Waller lith. 18. Hatton Garden.

Fig. 2.

W.G. Smith. del et lith

Effigy of a Lady (unknown) p. 205.

the Harleian Charters.* The effigy was no doubt originally completely painted and gilt; but not a trace of colour or metal is now discernible. The female effigy beneath is of much ruder workmanship, and has suffered also considerably from ill-treatment as well as time. It presents us, however, with the distinctive features of the costume of a lady of the thirteenth or commencement of the fourteenth century. The head is enveloped in couvrechef and wimple, and the body in a robe reaching to the feet; the long tight sleeves of the kirtle being visible from just below the elbow. This effigy, we believe, is now engraved for the first time. On the eastern side of the entrance to the Molland chancel, and on the north of the communion table, lies the effigy of one of the Leverick family, as evidenced by the arms which were in Philipot's time visible on the shield, but have now totally disappeared; viz., Argent, on a

* *Vide* Chapter V. In the Additional MS., No. 4579, from which already we have obtained such valuable information, is a sketch of this effigy, very ill drawn, but undoubtedly displaying both on the shield and surcoat the lion and cross-crosslets. Mr. Bryan Faussett, in his Church Notes, A.D. 1760, says: "On the *femme* side, I with much ado made out the arms of Septvans, alias Harflete, as in the following page, but the *Baron's* side was quite effaced." If not a mistake, this circumstance would prove that the shield had been re-painted between 1613 and 1760, and though in one sense incorrectly, as the arms of the wife were never displayed on the war shield of the knight, it would indicate the knowledge or belief at that time prevalent, that this Sir John de Goshall had married the daughter of a Septvans.

chevron sable three leopard's heads or.* We take this effigy to be that of Sir John Leverick, knight, of Ash, who married Joan, daughter of John Septvans, of Milton, living 1351, by a daughter of Roger Manston. The figure has been finely engraved by the late Mr. Stothard in his beautiful work, "The Sepulchral Effigies of Great Britain," and represents a knight of the latter part of the fourteenth century, temp. Edward III., in a highly ornamented suit of plate armour; the bascinet is spherical, with an escalloped border, and the camail is secured to the shoulders by embossed plates, representing lions' heads. The jupon, laced up the right side, is encircled by a magnificent military belt. The dagger is gone on the right side. The legs of the figure are crossed, and the feet rest on a lion, the head of which is remarkable for its life-like expression. There is a great similarity between this effigy and one in St. Peter's, Sandwich, erroneously attributed to a Sir John Grove, who died in the reign of Henry VI. From a sketch of the latter in Additional MS. 4579 it clearly represents one of the Grove family; but it is of the same date with this at Ash, and certainly not later than the time of Richard II.

* The coat, as we have blazoned it, occurs in Philipot's "Ordinary Coll. of Arms," p. 94, as that of "Leverick of Carne, co. Dorset." There is also a pen-and-ink sketch of this effigy in the Additional MS. above quoted, with the arms distinctly drawn both upon shield and jupon.

Waller lith 18 Hatton Garden

W C Smith. del. et lith

Effigy of Sir John Leverick.

Ca. 1415

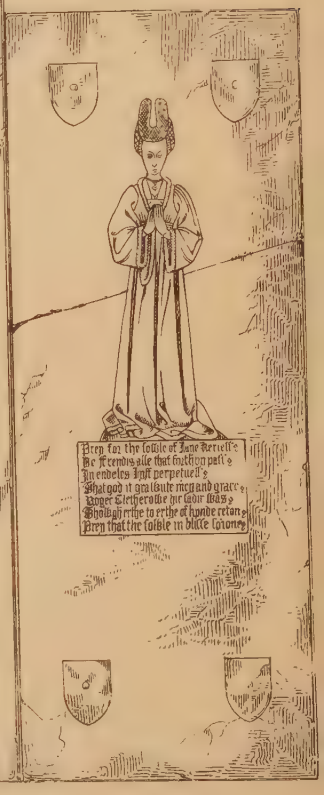

Pray for the soule of Jane Keriell
Be Frendys alle that on thys pas
In endeles blys perpetuell
That god it graunte mcy and grace
Unto Cleriscalle pe cour was
Wedlych estate to rethe of honde cetan
Pray that the soible in blisse regnes

Fig. 1

Grave stone of Richard Clitherow and Wife. p. 207.

Fig. 2.

Brass of Jane Keriel. d. c. 145
p. 208.

On the floor, and nearly in the centre of the high chancel, are the remains of a fine brass of the fifteenth century, once commemorating Richard Clitherow, of Ash, Esquire, Lord of the Manor of Goldstanton, now Goldston, in this parish, Sheriff of the county of Kent, fourth and fifth of Henry IV., and Admiral of the Seas from the Thames westward; and his wife, daughter of Sir John Oldcastle. Weever has preserved the portion of the inscription remaining in his time: "Hic jacet . . . . Clitherow Ar. & . . . . uxor ejus filia Johannis Oldcastell qui obiit . . . ."—(Funeral Mon. p. 264.) The upper portion of the figure of the lady now alone remains, arrayed in kirtle and mantle, couvrechef and barbe, *i. e.*, a piece of linen closely plaited, worn *above* the chin by all noble ladies in mourning down to the rank of a baroness, and *under* the chin by lords' daughters and knights' wives; the inferior gentry and "chamberers" being ordered to wear the barbe "below the throat goyll," that is, the lowest part of the neck. In this example the barbe is represented as covering the neck, and coming up close under the chin, as the daughter of Sir John Oldcastle, who assumed, in right of his wife, to be Lord Cobham. The effigy of her husband is totally gone, together with one of the crocketed canopies, the inscription, the miniature effigies of six children at their feet, and four shields of arms, three of which, from a drawing in the Additional MS. before quoted, exhibited (1) Clitherow, three cups covered within a bordure engrailed, impaling Old-

castle . . . . a castle triple-towered; (2) Clitherow alone, and (3) Oldcastle quartering party per pale, a double-headed eagle displayed.* It is grievous to look upon the desecrated slab, and think that wanton mischief or paltry cupidity should have been suffered to deprive us of such interesting memorials.

Side by side with it lies a similar record, which has fortunately escaped such wholesale spoliation. It is the brass of Jane, daughter of Roger Clitherow, son of the Richard before mentioned, and wife of John Keriel, second son of Sir William, and brother of Sir Thomas Keriel, K.G., beheaded 1461. As nothing appears to have been said about the lady or her husband by any one who has noticed her gravestone, we will here briefly state that she appears to have been born between the years 1420 and 1430, and died before 12th March, 1454-5, the date of her father's death, without issue by her husband, who was for many years a prisoner in France, Leland says from 1450 to 1472. He married, secondly, Elizabeth Chiche, who survived him, and married two other

* Harris says the Clitherows of Goldston and Little Betshanger bore Argent, on a chevron gules between three spread-eagles sable five annulets or; and Oldcastle, Per pale argent and gules an eagle displayed counterchanged; but the seal of Sir John Oldcastle, attached to an indenture made between him and his wife Johanna on the one part, and Sir Thomas Brooke on the other, exhibited Quarterly, 1st and 4th, a castle; 2nd and 3rd Cobham: and it was circumscribed, "Sigillum Johannis Oldcastle D'ni de Cobham."—(MS. Coll. Arms, Philipot, P. E. I. p. 107.) The "party per pale and eagle displayed" coat was, as we have seen, occasionally quartered with Oldcastle, and was also in the windows of Ash Church.

husbands, but had no issue by any, and died in 1499. We have no record of his death or the place of his burial, but it is not improbable that he also was buried here, as the figure of a Keriel kneeling in his coat armour was formerly in the windows of this church, as we have stated at page 189. She is represented in the full gown of the period, girdled at the waist, with wide sleeves, and wearing what has been designated the mitre-shaped head-dress of the reign of Henry VI., a fashion the varieties of which are almost innumerable, and more or less extravagant, according to the caprice or taste of the wearer. Beneath the figure are the following lines :—

Prey for the sowle of JANE KERIELL
Ye ffrendes alle that forthby pass
In endeles lyfe perpetuell
That God it grawnt mcy [mercy] and grace.
Roger Clitherowe her fader was
Thowgh erthe to erthe of kind retoʳne
Prey that the sowle in blisse sojoʳne.

The slab was formerly adorned with four escucheons of arms, long since lost, two of which it would seem bore those of Keriel : Two chevrons and a canton, the latter charged with a crescent for difference, impaling Clitherow.* Nearer the altar-rails,

* Additional MS., Brit. Mus., No. 4579, wherein the effigy and shields are rudely drawn. The loss of the other two is the more deplorable, as they doubtlessly displayed the arms of her own family, and might have accounted for those of "Wolfe" displayed on the mantle of "the wife of Keriell" in the old window.

and at the foot of Richard Clitherow's gravestone, is a slab, from which the whole of the brasses have disappeared, and, in fact, has been so much injured by time or ill usage, that it is difficult to decide whether it ever possessed more than one brass, which seems to have represented the upper portion of a male figure (whether in civil or military habit we will not undertake to say), with an inscription beneath it.

This may be the gravestone of Roger Clitherow, son of the above Richard, and father of Jane Keriel, who in his will desires to be buried "in the quire of St. Nicholas, Ashe," near Johanna [Stoughton], his daughter; bequeathing a missal to the altar, and ten marks for all things necessary to it, and the residue of his estate to his wife Matilda, who is appointed executrix in conjunction with Thomas Hardres and John Oxenden. His wife Matilda, by her will proved in 1457, also desired to be buried in the choir here near her husband; devising to John, son of John Norrys, and Eleanor his wife (who was her eldest daughter), the whole suit of armour of her late husband; a bequest, perhaps, the more precious, as it was probably the one he fought in at the memorable battle of Agincourt. In this chancel must also have been the tombstone of William Norrys, of Ash, gentleman, a descendant of the above-named John, probably his grandson, who by his will dated September 10, 1486, and proved at Canterbury before the Prior and Chapter 20th November the same year,

desires to be buried in the chancel of Our Lady in the parish of Ash, at *the south end of the altar there*, that his red cloth of Bauderkyn* be laid upon his body in the said church of Ash, and is there to remain for a perpetual remembrance, and a black cloth and two tapers thereon set, to be lit and burning in the time of saying Divine service there, to be had and ordained over his tomb for a special remembrance of prayer. That a convenient stone be set *in the wall* before his said tomb, *under the image of Mary Magdalen there*, with an image of the Trinity graven in brass, and picture of his body and arms therein set for a special remembrance of prayer. No trace of this stone existed in the old wall here specified, which was thoroughly repaired and partially rebuilt in 1861. Nor can we venture to speculate on the position which the image of Mary Magdalen occupied at the period in question. It is probable they both disappeared at the Reformation.

There were several other dilapidated gravestones on the floor of the chancel, which were taken up during the recent repairs; but being for the most part broken, as well as entirely destitute of any traces of sculpture or inscription, it was not thought necessary to replace them.

On the north wall of the chancel is the following inscription on a mural tablet, surmounted by the

* Baldekin, a rich stuff originally manufactured at Baldeck, whence the name. The French call a canopy *baldaquin*, from the material of which it is composed.

arms of Cartwright: Or, a fess embattled between three cartwheels sable; crest, a griffin's head erased.

In a vault in this Chancell
lieth interr'd
the body of Mrs Eliz. Cartwright, widdow,
who
departed this life Decembr 2nd 1713.

As also of Jervas Cartwright, Esqre,
her only son, who died Apr 6th 1721.

And Mrs Eleanor and Mrs Ann Cartwright,
her daughters, who died
the one Jan 20th
the other Febv 19th } 1721.*
At their desirs this Chancell was
beautified and adorn'd and by their
order a Charity school was
erected in this Parish and munificently
endow'd for ever.
Inasmuch as you have done it unto one
of the least of these my brethren, ye
have done unto Me.
St Matt. C. 25th V. 40.
Blessed are the dead what dye in the
Lord, for they rest from their labours
and their works doe follow them.

On the floor of the chancel, within the altar-rails, is an additional memorial of these worthy persons, in the shape of one of the most singularly constructed Latin epitaphs we have ever met with.

* Old style; we should say 1722.

H. S. E.
GERVASIUS CARTWRIGHT, Armiger,
Londini natus
Hujusce Parochiæ dum vixit
Decus et tutamen. Qui

Sinceram { In Deum pietatem / In cognatos charitatem / In egenos beneficientiam / In omnes deniq' morum suavitatem } ita exercuit.

Ut non magis omnibus peramatus vixerit.
Quam desideratus occiderit
Vitam tranquille instituendo semper felix evasit
Tandem æquā animi serenitate deponendo felicior
Cum enim mors ipsa
Apertis armata terroribus
Certum intenderet telum
Mira constantia
Crudelem imperterritus excepit Ictum
Et DEO conservatori
Animam placidissime reddidit
Ingens sane X^tanæ Fortitudinis Exemplum
nec vanum futuræ illius
quam animitus anhelabat
Felicitatis Indicium
In Pauperiorum hujus Parochiæ Alumnorum Eruditionem.
. . . . impendendas in perpetuum reliquit.
Obiit 6 die Aprilis,
Anno { Domini 1721. / Ætatis 44.
Juxta hoc locum conduntur reliquiæ
Dilectissimarum Sororum

ELEONORÆ / et / ANNÆ } CARTWRIGHT, Virginum,

Quæ ne nimium diu tam charo capite carerent
Post decem menses morte
Fratrum libenter secutæ sunt

Illa 20 die Januarii / Hæc 19 Februarii } Anno Domini $17\frac{21}{22}$ Ætat. { 47 / 46

Above it the arms of Cartwright, as in the mural tablet.

On the east end of the south wall of chancel, facing Mr. Cartwright's :—

In a vault in this Chancell
lieth interred
The body of HENRY ROBERTS, Esq^r
Grandson of Sir W^m Roberts
Of Wilsden in y^e County of Middlesex, Bar^t
who died Feby 25^th 1718.
He had issue by Susanna his wife three
sons and two daughters viz : Catherine, Henry,
Harry, Susanna and Henry of which y^e first
and the last only surviv'd ; the rest are
with him in the same vault.

As also M^rs. ELEANOR ROBERTS his Sister
who died Feb^y 1^st 1719.
"Come ye beloved of my Father inherit the
Kingdom prepared for you from the
Foundation of the World." S^t Mat. c. 25, v. 34.

In the same vault is also interr'd the
body of M^rs SUSANNA ROBERTS, late
wife of the above Henry Roberts Esq^r.
Obiit the 11^th of Feb^y 1730. Æt. 44.

Arms : Argent, three pheons sable, on a chief of the second a greyhound courant of the first, Roberts ; impaling, argent, on a mound vert a bull gules. Crest : A greyhound sejant argent.

In Memory of
EDWARD SOLLY Esq^{r};
of London, a descendant
of the Solly's formerly of
Pedding and the Moat
in this Parish, who died
30th March 1792 aged
63 years.
Also SAMUEL SOLLY Esq^{r} of London,
his brother who died 5th of Jan^{y} 1807,
aged 79 years.
And of SARAH SOLLY wife of
Samuel Solly, who died
14th of November 1805,
Aged 59 years.

In memory of
THOMAS COLEMAN,
of Goss Hall in this Parish, where he resided
during the last thirty-eight years of his life.
He died February 23^{d}, 1856, aged 67 years.

NORTH WALL OF CHANCEL.

In memory of
WILLIAM BRETT, Esq^{re},*
Cap^{t} of the Royal Navy,
Late of Guilton in this Parish,
who died Jan^{y} y^{e} 19 1769,
Aged 51.
FRANCES his Wife (who
erected this monument) died
Jan^{y} 11, 1773, aged 39.
W. F. BRETT their son
died March y^{e} 17 1779,
Aged 13.
FRANCES their daughter died July 14 1778, aged 23.

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* He was brother of Sir Percy (or Percival) Brett, Knt., M.P. for Queensborough 28th Geo. II. and 1st & 7th Geo. III.

Above the inscription are the arms of Brett: Argent, a lion rampant gules, an orle of cross-crosslets fitchée of the 2nd; impaling, argent, on a chevron gules between three lion's jambs sable as many crescents or, for Harvey.

Sacred to the Memory of
JOHN GODFREY Esq^r^,
of Brooke House in this Parish,
Magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant of the County of Kent,
who died January 26^th^ 1861, aged 71.

His truest memorial is in the hearts of his Family,
his friends, and the people of this parish.
"The path of the just is as the shining light that
shineth more and more unto the perfect day."
Prov. iv. 18.

Also to
AUGUSTA FRANCES ELIZABETH,
eldest and beloved daughter of the above,
who died May 15^th^, 1861, aged 36.
"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall
see God." Matt. v. 8.

Arms: Azure, a chevron or between three pelican's heads, erased. Crest: A demi-man naked, holding in his right hand a cross-crosslet. Motto: "Corde Fixam."

Sacred to the Memory of
ARTHUR WILLIAM GODFREY,
second son of John and Augusta Isabella Godfrey,
of Brooke House in this Parish.
Born at S^{t} Hillier's Jersey, Jan^{y} 19th, 1829;
Entered 2^{d} Batt. Rifle Brigade as 2nd Lieut. Dec^{r} 30th, 1845,
from H.M. College, Sandhurst;
Served in Nova Scotia and Lower Canada,
and as Lieut. 1st Batt. in the Kaffir War, 1852-53,
for which he obtained the Medal.
Served also with distinction in the Crimea,
and gained the medal and clasps for
Alma, Balaclava, Inkerman.
Died on 27th of Nov^{r}, 1854, of Cholera, in Camp before Sebastopol.
His brother officers in affectionate commemoration,
of his worth and gallantry,
erected a stone over his grave on
Cathcart's Hill.

"The righteous hath hope in his death."

This monument is erected by those to whom alone his value
and endearing qualities were fully known.

Same arms as on the last.

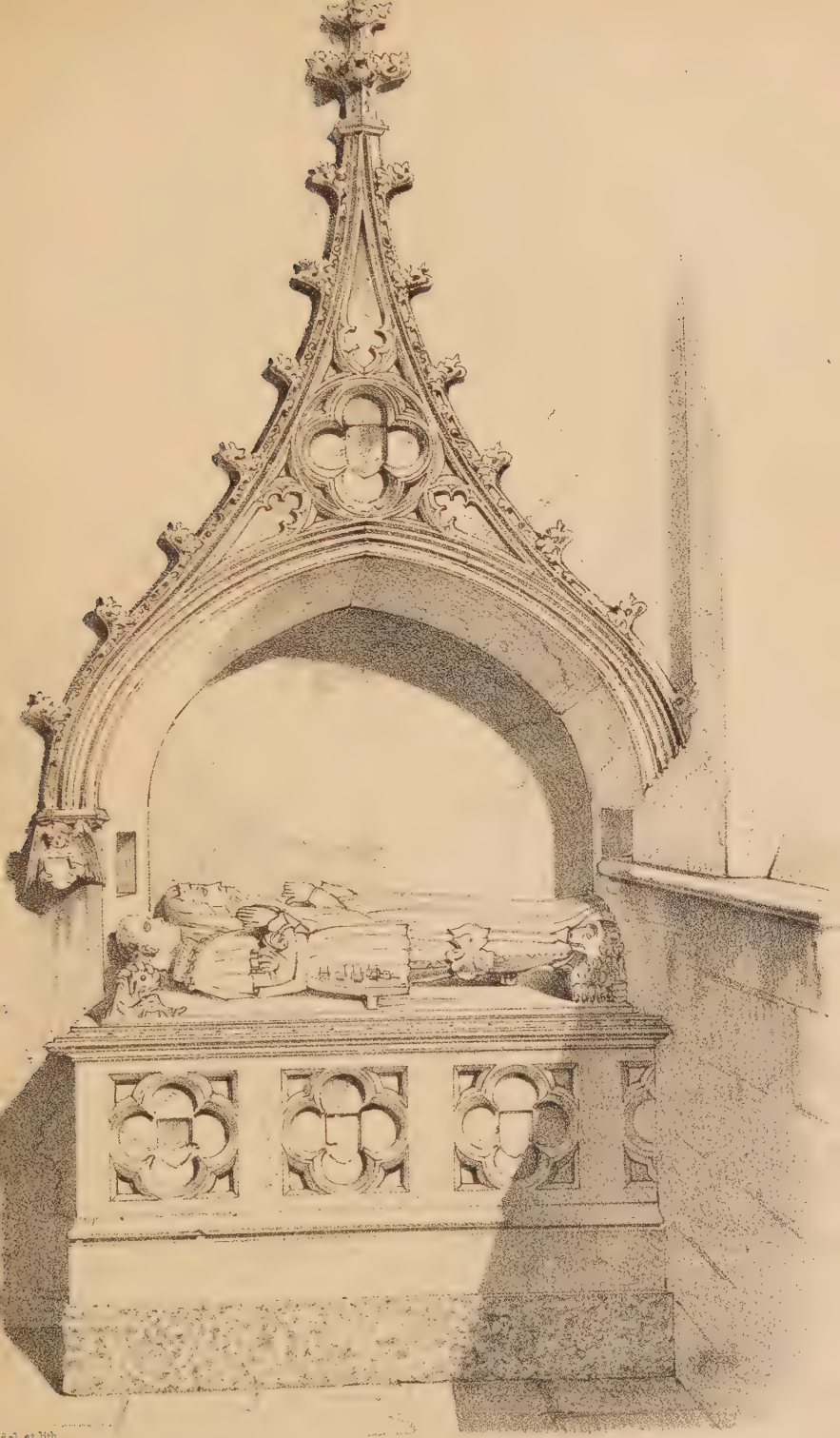
ON THE FLOOR OF THE CHANCEL.

BENJAMIN LONGLEY, LL.B.
Minister of y^{is} Parish 29 years;
Also Vicar of Eynsford
and of Tongue.
Died 6th Feb. 1783,
aged 68.

FRANCES LONGLEY,
sister of the above, born
31 Oct. 1729; died 26th Dec^{r}
1813.

Beneath lies
the remains of
Joseph Smith,
late Curate
of this Parish.
Died May 22, 1817,
aged 32 years.

Passing into the Molland, or St. Nicholas chancel, the eye is attracted by the fine alabaster effigies of a knight and lady upon an altar-tomb under a canopy against the north wall, on the eastern side of the window. These noble examples of the sculpture of the fifteenth century represent John Septvans, Esquire of the Body to King Henry VI., and founder of a chantry here, who died A.D. 1458, and his wife, Katherine, who died in 1498. This John Septvans was the son of John Septvans, of St. Lawrence and Constance St. Nicholas, and nephew of Joan Septvans, wife of Sir John Leverick, of Ash, whose effigy immediately facing we have recently described. "Kateryn Martin, of the town of Feversham, widow," by her will dated 14 April, 1495, and proved 19 January, 1498, desires to be buried "in the parish church of Ash, in the same tomb where the body of John Septvans, her husband, resteth." She bequeaths to the chantry of the Upper Hall, founded by her husband, for ever, 20 shillings annually of "the land which lyeth, or beith next to the said chantry," upon this condition, that there be kept annually in the parish church of Ash an obit for the souls of her relations and friends. That after the decease of her



del et lith

Effigies of John Septvans Esq.re & his Wife.

r. Waller, Lith. 18, Hatton Garden

daughter, Edythe Wygmere (Wigmore), the manor of Shert (Shoart) be divided among the daughters of her son, John Wygmere, viz., Margaret, Elizabeth, Anne, and Beatrix; each of them to have portion alike, and to be each other's heirs; and, if all decease unmarried, then the same to be distributed towards maiden's marriages, highways, and other charitable deeds.*

To return to our effigies. The male figure is in the full military costume of the middle of the fifteenth century, consisting of a complete suit of plate armour, with elegantly designed knee and elbow pieces; the thighs protected by what were termed *tuilles*, fastened by straps and buckles to the taces or tassets; horizontal bands of steel forming a sort of skirt to the breast-plate, over which, at this period, was worn a tabard of arms, with sleeves nearly to the elbow, and open at the side from the hips.† Round his neck is a collar of SS., denoting his rank of Esquire of the Body to the sovereign. The hair is cut close above the ears, a fashion intro-

* Prerog. Office, Canterbury. In Sittingbourne Church was formerly "On a fayre Alabaster Tomb" this :—"Pray for y^e^ soul of John Sepuans, Esq^r^, of y^e^ Isle of Thanett, sonne of John Sepuans, of this Parish, Esq^r^, and for the soule of Katharine his wife, w^ch^ Jo^n^ dyed y^e^ 28 Decemb^r^, 1458."—(Harleian MS., No. 3917.)

† The drawing of this effigy in the Additional MS., so often quoted, shows the three fans on the tabard. The monument is described as "a very large tomb in the north chancel *in the wall*, of a second brother of the Sepvans, who lies in his coat of arms with a collar of SS about his neck. He dwelt in the Isle of Thanet."

duced at the beginning of the fifteenth century; and the head, represented partially bald, reposes on a tilting helmet supported by angels, and surmounted by the torse, or wreath, out of which issues the crest of this branch of the family, the head of a fish erect, or *hauriant*, as it is termed in heraldry; those of the Harfleet line bearing an entire fish—"a bream in its proper colours" (Vinct. 145, Coll. Arms), in a horizontal position, or *naiant*, *i.e.*, swimming.* The feet of the effigy, in pointed sollerets, rest upon a couchant lion. The cuffs of the gauntlets, and the edges of the jambs, or leg-pieces, have a richly ornamented border. The openings between the jambs and the sollerets are protected by gussets of chain; and a thick gorget of chain protects the neck. The sword, somewhat mutilated, is on the left of the figure; and the dagger, the hilt of which is gone, as well as the belt by which it was suspended, lies on the right. The lady is represented in the dress of a noble widow, "barbed above the chin," with an ample veil, and wearing a kirtle with tight sleeves buttoned at the wrist, over which is a very full-skirted surcoat, reaching in graceful folds to the feet, and itself surmounted by a mantle of state, with cords and tassets dependent. At her feet are the remains of a small headless animal—probably a dog. The lady's head reposes on two square cushions, tasselled at the corners, the

* By another authority it is called "a chevin," *i.e.*, a chub, and we incline to think that this is its most correct designation, for reasons we shall adduce in our 5th chapter.

upper one placed diamond fashion, and supported by angels. On each side of the recess in which the tomb stands are places formerly occupied by shields of arms. The tomb itself, of dark grey marble, is simply ornamented with quatrefoils. Here, again, we have to deplore the loss of the armorial bearings, which, in this case, prevents our perfectly clearing up one of the mysteries both genealogical and architectural of this interesting memorial. In the first place, these effigies are declared not to belong to the altar-tomb on which they now are placed; and that the tomb itself, as well as the effigies, have been removed from some other part of the church*—the now demolished chapel or aisle on the south side of it, as supposed by some who have taken an interest in the subject; and in the second place, there is much confusion and misunderstanding respecting the lady presumed to be represented by the female effigy.

Had all the shields of arms been fortunately preserved, they must have thrown some light on both these questions. One, however, and a most important one, was existing in 1760, when it was drawn by Mr. Bryan Faussett. It was the small one in the point of the arch above the monument, and displayed

* It is worth noting that the tomb which formerly existed in Sittingbourne Church, and on which was an inscription respecting this very John Septvans and Katharine his wife, was of "fayre alabaster," as are their effigies here. Is it possible that the effigies were removed previous to 1613 from Sittingbourne to this church, and placed on the tomb of Purbeck marble in or under which the bodies were actually deposited?

Septvans impaling a fess between three fleurs-de-lys in chief, and three fishes naiant in base, given by Philipot as the arms of Kirton. If the effigies did not originally repose under the canopy which now overhangs them, either on the tomb at present there, or on a similar one, the armorial bearings within the recess and above it would, in all reasonable probability, have proclaimed them intruders. On the contrary, if rightfully entitled to rest there, the family of the lady (there can be no doubt about her husband) might have been satisfactorily ascertained. At present we can only draw our conclusions from the solitary shield just mentioned, the vague wording of the will we have just quoted, and some Church Notes by Philipot in the Harleian Collection, British Museum, No. 3917, from which we gather that she was by birth a Kirton; that after the death of John Septvans, Esq., December 28, 1458, she married a gentleman named Wigmore, by whom she had a son, John, who died October 23, 1492, leaving by his wife Edith three daughters, who, with their mother, were all living in 1495; and that after the decease of Katharine's second husband, Wigmore, she married thirdly . . . . Martin, of Feversham, dead in 1495, in the April of which year she made her will as his widow, and desired to be buried with her husband, John Septvans, at Ash. The evidence in support of this view will be found more fully detailed in our fifth chapter by those who are inclined to pursue the subject; but we by no means consider it conclusive.

The effigy of the lady on this tomb is, as we have remarked, barbed *above the chin*, a distinction limited at the time of the decease of Katharine Martyn to ladies not lower in rank than the wives of barons, by the funeral ordinances of Margaret Tudor, mother of King Henry VII. That sumptuary laws were continually evaded we admit; but the sculptor's object would be, of course, to indicate correctly the rank of the person commemorated, and neither as the wife of Septvans, Wigmore, or Martyn, could Katharine Kirton have been entitled to such a distinction. We have just pointed out to the reader the strict attention paid to this apparently trivial point in the brass of the daughter of Sir John Oldcastle. Two questions therefore suggest themselves: (1) Is the effigy that of Katharine? (2) Are the arms those of Kirton? She might be buried according to her directions, in her husband's tomb; but it does not follow that she was his only wife. He might have had a previous one of higher rank; and the fact of Katharine having survived him forty years, is strongly indicative of his having been considerably her senior, and therefore likely to have been a widower at the time of their marriage. As yet we have failed to discover a family of Kirton, bearing the arms attributed to them. Philipot, in his Church Notes (Harleian MS. 3917), describing the tomb at Sittingbourne, says doubtfully: "her arms...Kirton?," and speaks of "4 escocheons, 3 gon, and y^{e} fourth, the which is y^{e} armes of *Valoynes*." Further research may

yet decide this question. I will only add, respecting the original position of these effigies, that John Brooke, of whom we shall presently have to speak, desires in his will in 1582 to be buried in St. Nicholas' chancel, "under the north window, *by Sepham's tomb*, close by the wall. Now, if Sepham be, as it is considered, one of the many corruptions of the name of Septvans, the position of Brooke's gravestone proves that the tomb, at any rate, was not far from that spot in 1582; but, as if purposely to complicate matters, there was a knightly Kentish family of the name of Sepham, whose arms were semée of cross-crosslets, three roses, and who matched with the Cobhams and other families of distinction in this county; and it is not, of course, impossible, that a Sepham may have been buried at Ash in the fourteenth or fifteenth century. The cruel despoliation the recess and canopy have undergone in the abstraction of the shields of arms, which could have enlightened us, cannot be sufficiently deplored or reprobated.

On the floor of this chancel at the back of the Goshall monument, is a large slab with brasses in tolerable preservation, commemorating Christopher Septvans, *alias* Harfleet, of Molland, Esquire, and his wife, the daughter of Thomas Hendley, in some documents called Margaret, and in others Maria and Mercy.

The brass fillet on which was the description of the persons represented has been partially destroyed. It reads at present as follows:—"Hic jacent corpora

Hic iacent corpora Christopheri Septuans alias
Sherlett de molard in Ash Armigeri qui natus fuit xxv° die Maii 1602
Quod genus humanum hic Christi Pulvis et umbra
Iuvus fur tumus debita nulla tegit
Quid genus humanum Christi Sanguis propago
Christo soluis morte redempta Deo
Ergo pulve Deum Christum cole tegnue caduca
Aeterna vita morte fruere pia.

Fig. 1

Fig. 3.

Brasses of William ..... & Anys his Wife.

p. 243.

Pray for the soulys of Wyllm leus & anys
his wyf whych dyed the xxiij day of marche
in the yere of owr lord god M ccccc xxij.

Inscripŏn (enlarged)

Hic iacet Corpus Walteri Septuanis alias
Harflet de Chekerin Parochia de Ash Armigeri qui natus fuit de S^ti Michaelis A° Do 1567 & obijt
4° die Ivlij 1642 & Lanavxor eivs Filia Johannis
Challoner de Fulham Armigeri, Quæ nata fuit 23° Julij 1576 & obijt 4° die Decembris 1626
Nomine egregium decus, et solidata propago
Nunc cinis amplexus coniugis ossa) iacet
Quam bene disposuit commissa charismata servus
Si fassit, dicas, vtilis ille fuit.
Impiger et prudens vitæ documenta reliquit
Et moriente omnes hinc didicere mori.

Fig. 2.

W. G. Smith, del et lith.

PLA

Christopheri Septvans *alias* Harflete de Molland in Ash, Armigeri qui natus fuit xx° die Julii . . . . . Hendley de Offam Amigeri quæ nata fuit xxix Septembris 1530 et obiit xxvii die Maii, 1602." We have, therefore, neither the date of Christopher's death, nor the Christian name of his wife preserved to us; but considering the wholesale spoliation in other instances, we cannot be too grateful for what remains in the present. Christopher Harfleet, we know from other sources, died in 1575. His widow, who had been previously the wife of Edmond Fowler, of Islington, Esq.,* survived him, therefore, twenty-seven years. In one of the windows at Molland, over the arms, may clearly be deciphered "*Ma—rcie* filia T. Hend . . . le armigeri" (*vide* page 119); while in another it appears like "*Mar—ret.*" In the Burial Register, under the date of May 27, 1602 (the very day of her death according to the monumental inscription), the entry is "Mercie Harflete Widdow;" and as her son Walter had a daughter named Mercy, and we do not find the name of Margaret given to any of her children, we think we may lean to the side of Mercy without any detriment to justice.†

* By whom she had three sons and one daughter, viz., Sir Thomas Fowler, Kt., of Walmestone, John, and Edmond, who died without issue, and Alicia, the wife of Edmund Oxenden, of Wingham, Esq.—(MSS. Coll. Arms; Philipot, 26-27; Vincent, 119; and J. P., 68.)

† In her will (Prerog. Office, Canterbury) the name is written *Mary* in the first folio, and *Marcy* in the following one; and a marginal

The figures of Christopher and his wife are engraved with much feeling and spirit. He is in armour, but bare-headed and looking towards the lady. His beard is peaked, a ruff close round the neck surmounts the gorget. The breastplate has the projecting termination characteristic of that period, in which it took the shape of what was called "the peasecod bellied doublet" of the civilian. The pauldrons (*i. e.* shoulder-plates) are very large; and long tassets, rounded at the bottom, are suspended from the breastplate and strapped over the trunk-hose; leg-pieces and round-toed sollerets complete the defence of the person. The pommel of the hilt of the dagger which, according to the fashion of that day, is worn horizontally at the back, is just visible on the right, and a long sword with a bow guard hangs straight beside him on the left, the point resting on the ground. In his right hand, raised to his breast, he holds a small prayer-book.

The lady wears that peculiar cap which is popularly called "Mary Queen of Scots," a large ruff, and covering for the neck called a partlet, a peaked stomacher, an ample gown with turnover collar, open in front, and displaying a richly embroidered petticoat.

Over the head of each figure is a shield of arms. The one on the right displaying three winnowing screens or fans, the later coat of Septvans; and that

note is made in the book (No. 59, folio 69) to that effect. From this document, dated 14th of May, 44th Queen Elizabeth (1602), we learn that these fine brasses were executed by her own order.

on the left the same impaling Hendley of Otham, quartering Argent, a saltier raguly between four torteaux, on a chief azure a hind couchant, or: Hendley of Coseburne (?).

Between the figures, in a square, is a large shield of quarterings of the Harfleet family, corresponding with that formerly in the church window, with helmet, crest (the fish *naiant*), and mantlings. Below the figures are the following lines:—

"Quid genus humanū sine Christo pulvis et umbra
Limus, fax, fumus, debita massa neci
Quid genus humanū in Christo, divina propago
Christi solius, morte redempta Deo.
Ergo nosce Deum, Christum cole, sperne caduca.
Æternâ vitâ morte fruere piâ."

Below these lines again there are two cavities in the stone where small oblong brasses have been fastened, most probably engraved with figures of their children.

Close beside Christopher and Mercy Harfleet lie the bodies of Walter their son, and his wife Jane Challoner. The brasses are in perfect preservation, representing Walter and his wife with their respective shields of arms, and, in miniature, their three sons Thomas, Walter, and John; and their three daughters, Jane, Mercy, and Joan. The inscription, which is complete, reads as follows: "Hic jacet corpus Walteri Septvans alias Harflete de Cheker in Parochiā de Ash Armigeri qui natus fuit die Sct^{i} Michaelis A.D. 1567 & obiit 4^{o} die Junii 1642, &

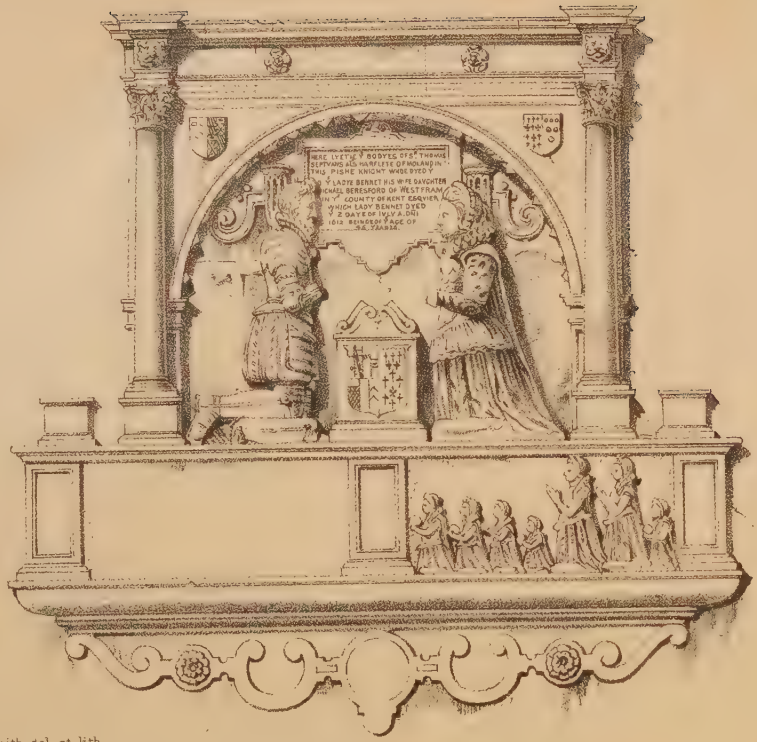
Jana uxor ejus filia Johannis Challoner de Fulham Armigeri quæ nata fuit 23^{d} Julii 1576 & obiit 4^{o} die Decembris 1626." Walter is represented in the civil dress of a gentleman of the reign of Charles I. He wears long hair and peaked beard, a short-waisted doublet with tabs, full breeches, stockings, and shoes with large shoe-strings, a very deep *rebato* or falling collar, and a long full cloak over his shoulders. In his right hand he holds a small prayer-book.

His wife is represented with a large veil over her cap or coif; a full gown, with short, loose sleeves; a boddice, with tabs, encircled with a girdle tied in a precise bow, and a large falling collar. She holds a small prayer-book in her right hand, and a kerchief in her left. Over the head of the male figure is a shield, with the three fans and a mullet for difference. Over that of the female, the same impaling three mascles and a chief—the arms of Challoner.

Between them, in a circle, is a shield of quarterings of the Harfleet family, as in the adjacent brass, with helmet, crest, and mantlings. Beneath the figures are the following lines:—

"Nominis egregium decus et solidata propago.
Nunc cinis (amplexus conjugis ossa) jacet
Quam bene disposuit commissa charismata servus
Si fas sit dicas, utilis ille fuit
Impiger et prudens vitæ documenta reliquit
Et moriente omnes hinc dedicere mori."

On the south wall, at the east end, over the effigy of Sir John Leverick, is a mural monument to Sir


HERE LYETH Y BODYES OF S^R THOMAS
SEPTVANS ALS HARFLETE OF HOLAND IN
THIS PISHE KNIGHT WHOE DYED
Y LADYE BERRET HIS 9^TH DAVGHTER
MICHAEL BERESFORD OF WESTFRAM
IN Y^E COUNTY OF KENT ESQVIER
WHICH LADY BENNET DYED
Y 2 DAYE OF JVLY A DNI
1613 BEINGE^N AGE OF
96 YEARES

W G Smith, del et lith.

Fig.1.

Monument to Sir Thomas Harfleet & Lady.
p. 229.

HERE LYETHE Y^E BODY OF CHRISTOPHER TOLDERVEY OF
CHARTHA SONNE & HEIRE OF CHRISTOPH^R TOLDER LATE OF
LONDON ESQ. DECEASED: HEE HAD TO WIFE IANE DAVGHT^R
TO S THOMAS HARFLEETE K^T W^CH WHOM NOT LONGE
LIVINGE HEE DEPATED THIS LIFE Y. 25 OF APRIL 1618
IN Y^E 32^TH YEARE OF HIS AGE IN ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF
WHOSE KIND LOVE ASWELL Y^E SAID IANE HIS WIFE AS
RICHARD CAMDEN GENT HIS KINSMAN HAVE CAVSED
THIS REMEMBRAVNCE OF HIM TO BEE HEERE ERECTED

F. Waller lith. 18, Fetton Garden.

Fig.2.

Monument to Christopher Toldervey & Lady.
p. 230.

PLATE I

Thomas Harfleet (the elder brother of Walter) and his second wife, Bennet Berisford. The figures of Sir Thomas and his lady are represented kneeling. He is in armour similar to that of his father, Christopher, and the lady in the full costume of her period, with French hood, ample ruff, and farthingale. In front of the *prie-dieu*, between them, is a shield of arms: Harfleet impaling Berisford. Over the head of Sir Thomas are the arms of his father and mother (Septvans impaling Hendley), and over those of Lady Harfleet the arms of her parents (Berisford impaling gules six plates, each charged with a fleur-de-lys sable.) (Knivet?) Between these shields is the following inscription :—

Here lyethe y^e^ bodyes of S^r^ THOMAS
SEPTVANS al's HARFLETE of Molland in
this P'ishe Knight who died ye
[*blank left for date*]
and the LADYE BENNET his wife
daughter of Michael Berisford of
Westerham in y^e^ county of Kent
Esquier which Lady Bennet
dyed y^e^ 2^d^ daye of July A^o^ Dni
1612 being of the age of
46 years.

On that portion of the base of the monument immediately under the figure of Lady Harfleet, are sculptured seven female children, all arrayed like the mother, but the four first and the last much smaller than the other two, and carrying skulls in their hands. The two largest are no doubt intended

to represent her daughters Rose and Jane, who married Tripp and Toldervey. The other five, children deceased in her lifetime—viz., an infant buried March 12, 1585—Elizabeth, baptized April 25, 1598, and buried Sept. 27, 1599—and Katharine, Susan, and Rose, who all three died in *one month*, August, 1593. The corresponding side is blank, but may originally have contained the figures of the sons, Michael and Christopher.*

In a line with this, at the west end of the south wall, is the often mentioned Toldervey monument. Christopher Toldervey and his wife Jane (daughter of Thos. Harfleet and the Lady Bennet just spoken of) are similarly represented kneeling, one on each side of a *prie-dieu*: the husband in the civil costume of a gentleman of the commencement of the seventeenth century, wearing doublet, full breeches, cloak, and ruff. The wife in French hood, gown, mantle, and ruff. Beneath them this inscription:—

Here lyethe the body of CHRISTOPHER TOLDERVEY of Chartham
sonne & heire of Christoph^{r} Tolder^{y} late of London Esq^{r}
deceased: he had to wife Jane daught^{r} to Sir Thomas
Harefleete K^{t} with whom not longer livinge hee
dep^{r}ted this life y^{e} 25th of April 1618.
in y^{e} 32nd year of his age in acknowledgement of
whose kind love as well y^{e} said Jane his wife as
Richard Camden Gent. his kinsman have caused
this remembrance of him to be here erected.

---

* Mr. Bryan Faussett, in 1760, says, "The marble under the man on which I imagine were the figures of the sons, is lost."

Above the monument is a shield of arms, with helmet and crest, displaying the armorial bearings of Toldervey: Azure, a fess or in chief, two cross-crosslets fitchée of the second. Crest: A dexter hand proper grasping a sea-shell, sable; and above the *prie-dieu*, between the figures, the same impaling Septvans. On the floor of this chancel, to the north of the Harfleet brasses, are several memorials of the Peke family, some quite illegible. The best preserved are as follows:—

Here lieth interred y^e .....
Peke of Hills Court Esq^r.....
Edward Peke Esq^r of .....
Who had to wife Kather.....
D^r William Kingsley A .....
Prebend of Canterbur .....
Had issue six sons and.....
Whereof left S^r Edw .....
Damaris & Elizabe .....
Octob^r Ann 1 .....

The terminations of the lines are quite effaced; but we are able, from what remains, to supply the deficiency. The stone is in memory of Thomas Peke, of Hills Court, in Ash, son of Edward Peke, of Sandwich, who purchased Hills Court from Henry Harfleet the younger (*vide* page 91). By Katharine, daughter of Dr. William Kingsley, Archdeacon and Prebend of Canterbury, he had six sons, of whom four were Edward (afterwards knighted), Thomas, Charles, and Peter; and four daughters—Damaris (who married Henry Dering of Purington), Susan (wife of Dr.

Aucher), Elizabeth, and ———. He died October 8, 1677, aged 74.* Above the inscription are the arms of Peke: Three talbots, impaling a cross engrailed for Kingsley. At the head of this stone is another, partly illegible, to the memory of Susanna, a sister, we presume, of the Thomas just mentioned:—

Here lyeth buried the
body of SUSANNA PEKE
daughter of Edward Peke
Esq^r who dyed the ... day of
October in.....
yeare of her .....
A^o Dm^i 16... †

Over the inscription are the arms of Peke, as above, quartering a chevron between three crescents (Norton of Feversham?). Eastward of these is a stone to the memory of Elizabeth, wife of Sir Edward, the eldest son of the Thomas Peke above mentioned:—

Here lyes interr'd the
body of the virtuous Dame
ELIZABETH PEKE relict
of Sir Edward Peke K^t &
daughter of S^r George
Wentworth K^t brother
to the most Illustrious
Thomas late Earl of
Strafford
she departed this life
the 29^th day of February.‡

Over the inscription are incised the arms of Peke,

* This date is given by Cozens in his "Tour in Thanet," p. 114.

† "Susannah Peke, daughter of Edward Peke, Esq.; died Oct. 26, 1633, aged 17."—(Cozens' "Tour in Thanet," *ut supra.*)

‡ 1691, Cozens' Tour.

impaling a chevron between three leopard's faces: Wentworth. At the foot of this stone is one to her elder son Thomas, on which are the arms of Peke only, with this inscription :—

Here lyeth ye body of THOMAS
PEKE of Hills Court in this
Parish Esqr eldest son to Sr
Edward of ye same place Kt
who departed this life ye 7th
of August 1701 in ye 29 yeare
of his age.
He married Elizabeth eldest
daughter to Mr Anthony Ball
of Bromley in Kent by whome
he had six children viz. Thomas
Edward, Ann, Elizabeth,
Margaret and Sarah.

To the north of this stone is the following quaint acrostic over the resting place of John Brooke, of Brooke Street :—

J OHN BROOKE of the parishe of Ashe
O *nly he is now gone*
H is days are past His corps is layd
N ow under this marble stone
B rooke Strete he was the honor of
R ob'd now it is of name
O nly because he had no sede
O r child to have the same.
K nowing that all must passe away
E ven when God will, none can dellay.*
He passed to God in the yere of grace
A thousand five hundred fourscore and two it was
The sixteenth day of January I tell you for playne
The five and twentyeth yere of Elizabeth raigne.

---

* The above ten lines were his own composition, and are contained in his will, proved February 7th, 1582, in which he desires to be

Above it the arms of Brooke: Party per bend argent and sable two eagles displayed (counterchanged). Crest: On a chapeau an eagle rising. At the foot of this stone is one with the inscription totally effaced; above it a shield of arms, the bearings of which are also completely obliterated; but the crest is still clearly visible and displays a dexter arm embowed, the hand grasping a spiked mace or mallet. The arm having been worn perfectly smooth, and not the slightest trace of any details distinguishable, it is impossible to say whether it was naked, vested, or in armour. The crest of Bathurst, a Kentish family, is a *mailed* arm embowed, the hand grasping a spiked *club*, sometimes drawn as a *mace;* but the arm is embowed the opposite way to that on this gravestone. The crest of a Hampshire family named Cresswell resembles it in attitude, but the arm is vested in a slashed and puffed sleeve, which we do not think could have been the case in this instance. The only crest appearing to us as precisely corresponding, which we have hitherto met with, was granted by Robert Cooke, Clarenceux, August 5th, 1590, to Fabian Gimber, of London, gentleman.* No

buried in the church of Ash in St. Nicholas chancel, under the north window, by *Sephams* tombe, close by the wall, and that a large marble stone be laid over him with the said epitaph therein written *verbatim.* The will is witnessed by Henry Harflete, gent., and Vincent St. Nicholas.

* The patent sets forth that he was "The son of William Gimber, of London; the son of William Gimber, of Tennesford; the son of William Gimber, of Doddington, in the county of Huntingdon,

trace of that name, or of any corruption of it, can be found, however, in the registers of this parish; but persons of that name are still living in Kent, and a Mr. Gimber is now resident in Sandwich. If it be the grave of any member of that family, it is probable the person was buried between the years 1641 and 1653, during which, as we have stated, no entries were made. That this stone should have escaped the notice of all previous investigators, ancient or modern, is very remarkable, as it must originally have formed an important feature on the floor of this chancel. The arms have been very spiritedly and tastefully sculptured, with crest, helmet, and mantlings, specially ordered in the grant to be "Gules doubled (*i. e.* lined) silver," in the best style of the seventeenth century. There being no mention of it in the Church Notes taken in 1613, is, we think, conclusive as to its non-existence at that period. The next minute inspection of the church with which we are acquainted, appears to have been that of Mr. Faussett in 1760, and we can only account for his

gentleman;" and having first granted him permission to bear, as his ancestors heretofore have borne, these armes hereafter following, to wit: The field sables on a bend silver, three chevrons gules, cotised (cotticed) silver; he adds, "and for that I find noe creast or cognizance to the same armes, as to many ancient armes there is none, I the said Clarenceux," &c. &c. . . . "On a wreath silver and sable an armed arme in male (mail) proper holding a horseman's weapon called a holy-water sprinkell, gould." . . . . "Unto the said Fabian Gimber, gentleman, and to his posterity, and to the posterity of William Gimber his father."—(Grants, vol. ii. p. 499, Coll. Arms, London.)

silence respecting it by presuming that, at the moment of his visit, it was concealed by some temporary construction. There were pews in the north-west corner of this chancel, and there may have been some at the east end during the last century. Previous to the noble gift of Mrs. Godfrey in 1819, the girls' school of the Cartwright charity was held in this chancel, and some desk, matting or wooden flooring may have covered this particular spot when Mr. Cozens copied the epitaphs in 1793; but it must have been exposed to friction for many years, or it could not have been worn so exceedingly smooth as we now find it.

To Mr. Faussett we are indebted for the record of the following inscriptions, which are now no longer legible:—

Here lies the body of Mr. THOMAS SINGLETON, late of Molland, in this Parish, descended from the ancient Family of the Singletons, of Broughton Tower, in Lancashire. He was educated in the College of Peter House, in Cambridge, where he took his first degree in Physick, and afterwards married Mary, daughter of Mr. Abraham Dawes, Merchant, of London, who, with one son, John, aged 10 years, survived him. He died December 7th, A.D. 1710, in the 48th year of his age.

Arms: Two chevrons between three martlets, two in chief and one in base, Singleton, impaling three mullets, Dawes.

Here lies interred the body of Mrs. MARGARET MASTERS, the wife of Mr. John Masters, second daughter and co-heiress of William Wilde, Esq., of Goldstone, in this Parish, who departed this life the 18th of April, 1758, in the 58th year of her age.

Mr. Cozens records the following addition:—

Mr. JOHN MASTERS, her husband, of Dorchester, died Feb. 5th, 1761, aged 64 years.

NORTH TRANSEPT.

Against the west wall is a mural tablet with the following inscription:—

Neare this Place
Is interred the body
of
WHITTINGHAM WOOD Esq^{r}
The last pretious Branch of
The Male line of his Familie who
Lived
Exemplarily in y^{e} service of God & of this
His Countrie, under y^{e} Eminent Teachinge
of that GRACE* Tit. 2. 11. 12. 13. & havinge
Married
Elizabeth y^{e} sole daughter of Thomas S^{t}
Nicholas of this parish Esq^{r} December 25. 1655
Dyed
In much sweet Peace July 27 1656.
In the 42^{d} yeare of his age
Psalm 112. 6.

Y^{e} Righteous shall be in Everlasting Remembrance.

On the floor is the gravestone inscribed—

Dormitorium
WHITTINGHAM WOOD. Arm.
July 27. 1656.

---

* Vide page 144, note.

Against the east wall, in a diamond-shaped tablet:—

Christus mihi vita est. Et in morte lucrum.

VINCENTIUS S^t^ NICOLAS, al's Sennicalas
Al's Seniclas, generosus obiit certa
Spe resurgendi 20 die Augusti,
Anno Domini 1589, Circiter ætatis
Annum 58. Qui uxorem duxit
Mariannam filiam Edwardi
Brockhill* armigeri, quam
Superstitem cum tribus liberis
Vid^a^ Mercia Filia, Thoma et
Timotheo filiis ex ipsa procreatis reliquit quibus videntibus
Deus sit Propitius
Civitatem Futuram Inquirimus.

On the floor, accompanied by an escutcheon in brass of the arms of St. Nicholas: Ermine, a chief quarterly or and gules:—

A Domino (Samuel) natum petiere parentes
Excultum innumeris te dedit ille modis
Rursus abis (Sanctus que) locis cœlestibus ardes
Ac velut Astra tuo lucidus orbe micas
Vere igitur (Nicolas) cœlis agis ipse triumphos
Victor et hæc laudis nos monumenta damus.

Thy parents asked a sonn God gaue them thee
Soe well adorned w^th^ hopeful parts that wee
Did much admire thy guifts and sobb at this
Soe rich a Jewell lost so soone wee miss.
But sure thou wast to bright for us belowe
Which glisterest now above the starry rowe
Thy selfe hast gain'd by death (though we have lost)
Heavens richest tryumphs w^th^ the glorious host
Thy righteous soule in joyes doth rest above
Under the stone thy corps on it may love.

---

* She was the widow of Thomas Harfleet, of Molland, who died 1559.

Around the stone is :—

Samuel, the son of Thomas St. Nicholas, by Eliza his Wife, born at Chatsham Bushes, by Ely, the 18th of August, 1614. Hasted to Heaven or his mornfull.....by Sandwich, in Kent..... of October, 1624, and is here buried. "I know that my redeemer liveth."

A square brass has been taken away from the lower part of this stone.

Beside it, round an escutcheon of arms (St. Nicholas quartered with a cross voided, Apulderfield, and impaling a cross between twelve cross-crosslets fitchée, Brockhill), this imperfect inscription :—

.....Vincenti (?) St. Nicholas qui pacem ingressus hic requiescit in cubili suo.....etatis suæ 56 (58 ?).....Memorial of y^e^.....just shall be blessed.....wicked shall rott. Prov. 10 ver.....

This would appear to be the actual gravestone of Vincent St. Nicholas, second husband of Marian Brockhill, to whom the tablet against the east wall of the transept is dedicated; and a little to the west of it are two other gravestones with brasses upon them, one of which, within a square border of alabaster, is similarly engraved with St. Nicholas and Apulderfield quarterly, impaling Brockhill as the latter, and the other with a lozenge of alabaster, the same coats quarterly, but impaling one which is all but entirely obliterated, but from earlier inspections would appear to have been the coat of Tilghman.*

* Party per fess, sable and argent, a lion rampant regardant, counterchanged, crowned, or. The crown alone being now discernible, the charge has been mistaken for a regal personage.

If so, it probably indicates the actual resting-place of Thomas, son of the aforesaid Vincent and Marian, buried at Ash October 30th, 1626, and his first wife Dorothea, daughter of William Tilghman, to whom we shall find a mural tablet in the nave. Immediately beyond these to the west again is a very large and much-damaged gravestone, very few words of the inscription on which can now be deciphered. At the head of it, however, are the arms of St. Nicholas, with a mullet for difference, plainly incised, beneath which may yet be read:—

.....Thomas St. .....Parish Gent. .....er of John on.....the 19th.....in the. .....re of his.....

and some other letters here and there more or less uncertain. The absence of dates increases the difficulty of interpretation; but Timothy, son of Thomas St. Nicholas, by his second wife, Elizabeth Woodward, and brother of the Samuel lying within a few feet of this spot, was buried here on the 19th May, 1638; and there are instances of burial on the day of decease, or it may be Thomas, son of another Thomas and Elizabeth Plumley. The mullet for difference rather inclines us to this belief, as it is the mark of a third son, which, if he were not the eldest of that second family, he must have been, Samuel being born in 1614, and Timothy in 1616. The arms also being simply those of St. Nicholas, without an impalement, would add to our opinion that he died unmarried, which Timothy did not; at any rate, it would appear as if all the descendants of

this branch of the family who died at Ash were deposited as nearly as possible to one another in this spot. There may be some other memorials of this family still concealed by the flooring of the pews, about to be removed, in this transept. In Peter le Neve's Church Notes we read: "There are in this church four monuments of the St. Nicholas's, whose wives are here expressed in pale with their husbands;" and the first mentioned is "St. Nicholas and Engham," which we have been unable to discover.

SOUTH TRANSEPT.

Near unto this monument lyes the
Body of Richard Hougham, Gen^{t}
Late of Weddington of this Parish
and Elizabeth his Wife, who was
the daughter of Edward Saunders
of Norton nere Sandwich Gen^{t} w^{ch}
said Richard & Elizabeth had
Issue 3 Sonnes and on Daughter (viz^{t})
Michael, Edward, Solomon and Ann
The aforesaid Michael and Ann
are also interred here.
This Monument was erected accord-
ing to the last will and testament
of the aforesaid Ann Hougham De-
ceased, who was baptized the 17th
of January Anno Dmii 1601 and De-
parted this natural life the 9th
of June 1661.
If grace and vertue could have deified
Here is interred a maide who nere had dyd
Her charity on earth, that put her love
On Heaven fitt only for the Saints above
Let theise frayle ashes a memento be
Her life a pattern and a legacy.

Above the inscription are the arms of Hougham, of Weddington: Argent five chevronels sable, quartering Saunders (?) and Brooke, of Brooke Street, Ash.

On the floor of this transept, under the boarding of a pew, is another memorial of this Richard and his family, and of his brother Michael. A brass, on which is engraved—

Here lieth buried the bodies of MICHAEL and RICHARD HUFFAM, sonnes of Michael Huffam. Michael died in July, 1594,* & Richard died October, 1606. Richard married Elizabeth, daughter to Mr. Edward Sanders, by whom he had three sonnes, Michaell, Edward, and Sollomon, and one Daughter, named Ann, all yet livinge. They were men both of a tall stature and comely persons, besides were well estemed amonge all sortes of people, both for their vertuous lives and also in their younge yeares for there good and thriftie government, not of themselves onlie, but also they were a good stay in this Parish amonge ther neighboures.

This stone was laide by the appointment of them w^o^ were exec^s^ to ther wills, viz., Thomas Paramor, now mayor of Canterb^y^, who married Ann Huffam, their sister, Mr. Serles Hawket, and Valint Austin, their Unckle.

Immediately adjoining this brass is another, on which are engraved the figures of a man and woman in the costume of the early part of the 16th century; the man in a long gown with loose sleeves, similar to those in which merchants or magistrates are represented; the woman with the peculiar head-dress rendered familiar to the public by the portraits of Catharine of Arragon, Anna Boleyn, and, indeed,

* Buried 12th July, 1596 (Ash Reg.); so the date in the brass must be an error.

most of the many wives of Henry VIII. The inscription beneath being—

Pray for the soulys of Wyllm . . . s & Anys his wyf thy dyed the XXIII day of martius in the year of our lord god MCCCCCXXV.

Are we to conclude that they both died on the same day? Of the surname the last letter *s* only is undoubted. They have been read Leus for Lewis; but we can only give an engraving from a rubbing, and leave our readers to form their own opinions. Annys is one of the most frequent Christian names of females that we find in the Baptismal Registers of Ash. This burial took place thirty-three years before the commencement of the registers, but one of the earliest interments recorded is that of an "Annys Lewes, July 7th, 1562," not improbably a daughter of the William and Annys aforesaid. There is no mention of this brass in any of the Church Notes of Ash printed or in MS. that we have inspected.

On the west wall of this transept is a mural monument—

To the memory
of Mrs. Mary Lowman,
Daughter of Gregory Butler Gen^{t} of Blackwall
in the County of Northumberland
Wife of Henry Lowman of Dortnued in Germany Esq^{r}
She died the 29th of September 1737 aged 84.*

* From their coffin-plates, recently discovered, we learn that Mrs. Lowman was "Laundress to King William and King George y^{e} 1st, & joynt house and Warde Robe Keeper at Kensington, with her

Also of her husband Henry Lowman
of Dortnued in Germany Esq^{r}
He died 3^{d} of February 174$\frac{2}{3}$.
Aged 93.
And also of Christopher Ernest Kien
Lieut Colonel of the Horse Guards*
He died the 29th of October, 1744, aged 61.
and Jane his Wife
Sole daughter of the above
Henry & Mary Lowman
She died Jan^{y} 17th 1762 aged 81.†
Also of Evert George Cousemaker Esq^{r}
who died April the 6th 1763 aged 41
and interred in a Vault near to this place.

Arms, in a lozenge: or, on a mount vert a naked man holding a branch in his hand proper, for Kien; impaling per bend sinister argent and gules a knight armed on horseback, holding a tilting spear erect, the point downwards (Lowman).

In this transept there are also two modern white marble mural tablets. The first over the gallery against the south wall, to the memory of Francis Tomlin, of Goldston, Gentleman (younger son of

husband to King William, Queen Anne, and King George y^{e} 1st:" that she died 29th of *November* (buried December 5,—Ash Reg.), and that Henry Lowman, Esq^{re}, "born of a good family at Dortnued, in Westphalia," was "Clerk of the Kitchen and house Keeper and wardrobe Keeper of the Palace of Kensington, in the reynes of King William, Queen Anne, and George y^{e} 1st, and his present Majesty, King George y^{e} 2nd." Also that he died in the 91st year of his age.

* "Lieut.-Colonel of Her Britannic Majesty's third troop of Horse Guards."—Coffin-plate.

† "Obiit 12th of January, 1762, ætatis 78."—Coffin-plate.

Francis Tomlin, of Northdown, Thanet, Esquire, and Martha, his wife), who died 27th of July, 1751, aged 56 years; and of Richard Motton, of Sandwich, Gentleman, who died 26th of May, 1800, aged 81 years; and of Ann, first wife of the said Francis Tomlin, and afterwards of the said Richard Motton, who died 10th of June, 1801, aged 81 years; and of the following sons of the said Francis Tomlin and Anna his wife:—Thomas Tomlin, of Twitham Hill, in this parish, Gentleman, who died 4th of September, 1784, aged 33 years; William Tomlin, of Birchington, Thanet, Gentleman, who died 11th of April, 1789, aged 44 years; and John Tomlin, of The Moat, in this parish, who died 19th of November, 1820, aged 71 years; and of Mary Tomlin, the wife of the said Thomas Tomlin, who died 26th of August, 1781, aged 30 years; Susanna Tomlin, wife of the said William Tomlin, who died 9th of April, 1830, aged 82 years; and Sarah Tomlin, wife of the said John Tomlin, who died 30th of June, 1835, aged 84 years; and of Edward Tomlin, the son of the said William Tomlin and Susanna his wife, who died 2nd of August, 1800, aged 17 years. The other, over the door leading to the belfry, commemorates Thomas Minter Tomlin, of Twitham Hill, Esquire, who died in 1857; and the following children by Sarah his wife; viz., Sarah Tomlin, 1820; Thomas Minter Tomlin, 1815; Mary Belsey Tomlin, 1821; Thomas Belsey Tomlin, 1828; Elizabeth Tomlin, 1837; and Jane, wife of T. Collet, 1845; also Sarah Georgina Tomlin, 1853, and Sacket

Arthur Tomlin, grandchildren of Thomas M. Tomlin and Sarah his wife.

On the floor under the window in this transept is a dilapidated gravestone, from which the brasses have long disappeared. The outlines of the space they occupied indicate a robed figure; but whether of a priest, a magistrate, a merchant, or a female, it would be hazardous to assert.

THE NAVE.

On the south wall a tablet to the memory of Dorothea, first wife of Thomas St. Nicholas, who married secondly Elizabeth Woodward:—

Piæ cordatæ modestæ amabilique Fœminæ fidelissimæ conjugi dilectissimæ que DOROTHEÆ (filiæ Gulielmi Tilghman gener: ex Susannã filia Thomæ Whetenham Armig.), 27 ætatis, annum agenti Tres filios Thomam Johannam Vincentiũ filias duas que Deboram et Dorotheam chara pignora superstites marito reliquenti 18 die Septembris, An° Dom. 1605 (circiter tres horas post partum Vincentii predicti) suaviter in Christo obdormienti Thomas S^t^ Nicholas mœstissime viduatus piæ memoriæ gratique animi ergo hoc monumentum statuit.

She was buried in the north transept, where her husband was afterwards laid by his express desire. We are inclined to think this tablet is not in its original position.

Near this is a tablet to the memory of Lieut. Henry Dawson, R.N., who died of fever at Bombay, September 15th, 1839, erected by his widow.

Another—

Sacred to the memory of JOSEPH WESTBEECH, Esq^r, Captain of the Royal Navy, who died in this parish on the 9th of November, 1811, aged 53 years.

Erected by his brother.

Also one to

JOHN FULLER, late of Molland, in this Parish, Gen^t, died the 10^th of February, 1797, aged 84 years. ELIZABETH his wife, daughter of Thomas Boteler, of Eastry, Gen^t, died the 20th of June, 1785, aged 77 years. MARY, their daughter, died the 17^th of October, 1763, aged 20 years. THOMAS, their son, died the 28^th of May, 1742, aged 8 days. Their only surviving daughter Elizabeth, the widow of Thomas Godfrey, late of Brooke Street, in this Parish, Esq^re, from affection for the best of parents and for an amiable sister, long and sincerely lamented, has consecrated this monument to their memory.

Arms: Argent, three bars and a canton gules, for Fuller, impaling argent, three escutcheons azure each charged with a covered cup or, for Boteler of Eastry. Crest: A talbot's head argent.

On the north wall is a tablet to the memory of Richard Horsman Solly, Esq., of 48, Great Ormond Street, London, eldest son of Samuel Solly, Esq., of the above place, and Sarah his wife. He died March 30th, 1858, and was interred in the Woking Cemetery.

At the west end of the nave, on a mural tablet of white marble, in form of a cross, is an inscription to the memory of Charles Robert Streatfield Nixon, eldest son of Francis Russell, Lord Bishop of Tasmania, late perpetual curate of this parish, born August 31st, 1837; died September 26th, 1842.

On the floor of the nave are the following :—

Here lieth interr'd the body of Mrs Mary Bax, Wife of Mr John Bax, Gent, who departed this life the 14th of June, 1743, aged 58 years. Also the body of the above Mr John Bax, Gent, who departed this life July 11th, 1759, aged 77 years.

Also of Mary Curling, Widow of Thos Curling, late of Ramsgate, Daughter of the above John and Mary Bax, who departed this life the 5th of July, 1769, aged 58 years.

Hark from the tombs a doleful sound
My ears attend the cry.
Ye living men come view the ground
Where you must shortly lie.

Under this marble lieth interred the body of Mary, Wife of Major Solomon Ferrier, of the Town and Port of Sandwich. She departed this life April 5th, 1760, aged 41 years.

Also Ann Roberts, mother of the above said Mary. She died the 26th of April, 1766, aged 77 years.

Joseph Westbeach, R.N., died 9 Nov., 1811.*

Also Miss Martha Westbeach, eldest daughter of the above, who died 16 September, 1821, aged 21 years.

M. Elizabeth Rowe, wife of Mr Benjamin Rowe, of Chequer Farm, in this Parish, who departed this life 23d of November, 1811, aged 56 years. Benjamin Rowe died 17th Decr, 1820, aged 69 years. Mary Rowe died 19th June, 1813, aged 70 years. Sarah Quested died 7th Feby, 1816, aged 5 months. Jane B. Quested died 7th March, aged 18 years.

Sacred to the memory of Mr. John Bushell, of this Parish, who departed this life the 6th day of June, 1831, in the 89th year of his age. He was born at Minster, in the Isle of Thanet, and many years resident at Ratting Court, in the Parish of Nunnington.

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* The marble tablet on the south wall of nave commemorates the same officer. The flat stone is over the vault.

UNDER THE TOWER.

W. B.
1760
A Vault.

In the churchyard were formerly many tombs of the Harfleets and the Aldays;* but they had disappeared before the end of the last century. The memorials at present existing are principally to the families of Ansell, Alexander, Beake, Bushell, Claringbold, Cleveland, Chandler, Chapman, Dane, Elgar, Friend, Fennell, Gibbs, Godfrey, Holtum, Horne, Joy, Jull, Kelsey, Kingsford, Laslett, Lad, Neame, Petley, Ralph, Solly, Smith, Stothard, Tomlin, West; and the only remarkable epitaph that of "Bartholomew Joy, of Ware in this parish, who died 4th Dec. 1778, aged 71 years," and is described as "a good parent, though afflicted, he trusted in God in hope of *a more paradiscal situation*."

* John Aldaye, of Ashe, in his will dated Oct. 19th, 1485, desires "to be buried in the Churchyard of Ashe, in the tomb where Joane his late wife lies." Raymond Thomas and John Harflete were also buried there on the north side. (*Vide* p. 180, note.) In Le Neve's Notes we read :—"There are in the churchyard some of the Aldies buried who did sometime dwell where Sir Thomas Harflete now does, and some of the Gibbs now remaining about Elmstone, not far from this place, whose arms are as underneath—viz., Argent, three battle-axes sable."—(Additional MS. No. 5472.) Sir John Saunders, vicar of Ash, desires "to be buried in the churchyard of Ashe, at the south side of the west door, afore the grave of his mother" (Will in Prerog. Off. Cant. 1509); and Ellen Stoughton, widow of Edward Stoughton, late of Ash, to be buried in the churchyard of Ash, between her late husband Lawrance Omer and her children there. (Will proved June 20th, 1575.)

The following List of Incumbents, though by no means perfect, previous to the 16th century, is the best we have been able to compile from the sources accessible to us:—

Alanus Capellanus de Ash,* A° 43rd Edward III.	1369
Dom^s. Thomas Monketon Capellanus,† 4th Henry V.	1416
John Middleton	1463
John Russell	1493
John Saunders ‡	1494—1509
Thomas Bode §	1519
William Berimell‖	1550
William Lynch	1554
Christopher Fleming¶	1558
John Stybbinge, "Minister" **	1593—1615

* "Cartæ Antiquæ" (Hasted).

† Charter of Gilbert de Cheker (*alias* Septvans).—Philipot, Coll. Arms.

‡ "Sir John Saunders, Vicar of Ashe." (Will dated 14th August, 1509.)

§ "Syr Thos. Bode, Vicar of Ashe." (Will dated 1st July, 1519.)

‖ "Vicar of Ashe." (So named in the will of Dr. Christopher Nevynson, of Addisham, dated March 15th, 1550.)

¶ Ash Registers, *sub anno*. As all that follow.

** He so signs himself in the Register; but he and all his predecessors, whose wills are to be found in the Prerogative Office, Canterbury, are styled vicars, after which they are described as curates. John Stybbinge was also rector of St. Mary's, Sandwich, and was buried in the chancel of Ash Church, according to his desire expressed in his will, December 30th, 1615.

William Brigham	1626
William Holden	1638
William Lovelace	1643
William Brigham	1655
William Noakes	1659
James Brenchley	1660
John Benchkin	1664—1693
John Shocklidge*	1693—1712
Obadiah Bourne	1712—1721
Francis Conduit	1722—1753
Benjamin Longley†	1753—1783
John Lawrence	1783, obiit June 9th
Robert Philips	1783—1784
Nehemiah Nesbitt ‡	1784—1803
Charles Baker §	1803—1810

* Drowned in the Stour.

† He was also vicar of Eynsford and of Tongue, co. Kent. Mr. Longley's entries go down to March 5th, 1782, after which in one book there occurs this notice:—"The Rev. Mr. Lawrence was appointed Curate in the room of Mr. Longley, deceased, but died in about two months, and was succeeded by the Rev. Mr. Philips, since removed to Beakesbourne." Mr. Longley died February 6th, 1783, and was buried at Ash. (*Vide* p. 217.) Mr. Lawrence, who had also been presented by the Lord Chancellor with the rectory of Pambroke St. Gabriel, in the county of Lincoln, died June 9th, 1783, and was buried at St. Margaret's, Canterbury, in the same grave with his father, Dr. Lawrence, physician, who died the day before his son.

‡ From March 29th, 1782, to October 5th, 1783, the entries are chiefly by "Thomas Verrier Alkin, Minister." Nesbitt's handwriting begins in October, 1783, but his first actual signature occurs in the Banns Book, under the date of June 6th, 1784.

§ He seldom officiated, and the Rev. J. Smith was his curate during the whole period of his incumbency.

Henry Dimock, A.M.	1810—1812
"William Wodsworth, incumbent *pro tempore*"*	
"Joseph Smith, A.B., was nominated to this cure April 6th" †	1812
Charles James Burton, M.A. ‡ ...	1817—1821
G. R. Gleig, M.A. §	1821—1834
Charles Forster, M.A. ‖	1834—1838
Francis Russell Nixon, D.D. ¶ ...	1838—1842
Edward Penny, M.A. **	1842—1849
George Ridout, M.A.††	1849—1857

Henry Smith Mackarness, M.A. ... 1857, present incumbent; late Fellow of King's College, Cambridge; rector of St. Mary the Virgin, in Romney Marsh, 1853 to 1857; and chaplain to the 24th company of Kent Volunteer Rifles.

Of the chapels of Overland and Fleet (or Richborough) appertaining to Ash, and given, with the parish church, to the college of Wingham, by Archbishop Peckham, in 1206, there are but few particulars to mention. That of Fleet must have existed

* Ash Register.

† *Ibidem.* He was afterwards promoted to Woodnesborough, co. Kent; died May 22nd, 1817; and was buried at Ash. (*Vide* p. 218.)

‡ Now vicar of Lydd and chancellor of the diocess of Carlisle.

§ Now Chaplain-General of the Forces, and rector of Ivy Church, Romney Marsh.

‖ Now rector of Stisted, co. Essex.

¶ Afterwards bishop of Tasmania.

** Now rector of Great Mongeham, co. Kent.

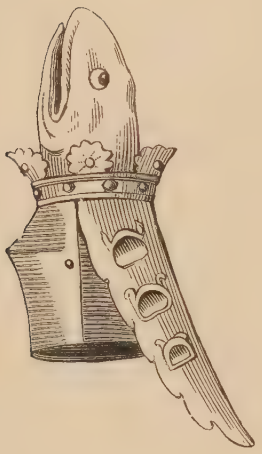
†† Now rector of Sandhurst, co. Kent.

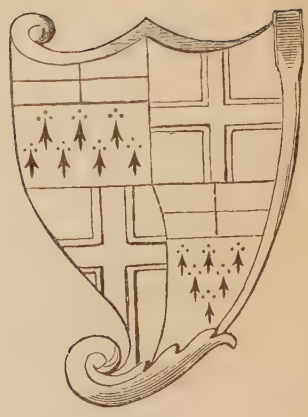
early in the 12th century, for, in the seventh of John, we find that the presentation to it was in the family of Bolbeck, and that Helewisa de Bolbeck, *grandmother* of Constance de Bolbeck, then the wife of Elias de Beauchamp, had previously possessed the advowson.—(Abb. of Pleas.) We have noticed the bequests to it of Sir John Saunders, vicar of Ash in 1509, at page 53. To the chapel of Overland he bequeathed his "little portys" (breviary) "of fine parchment, written with hand, p'ce 40s," and also "40s. to make a window in the east end of the same chapel." In the Valor Ecclesiasticus, *temp.* Henry VIII., A.D. 1540—1545, we find the following entries :—

All manner of tythes and other pfytes of the chapell of Overland ..... xx.

For the salary of the iij Prests s'vying the cures of the said Chapels of Ashe Overland and Richborough ..... xvij

Henry Jones the elder, of Ash, near Sandwich, yeoman, in his will, proved 1588, mentions the chapel and churchyard of Overland, and the green next the churchyard, among other parts of the manor then occupied by him. Vincent St. Nicolas was at that time the owner of the lease of the parsonage of Overland, which he bequeathed to his son Thomas, with all the glebe land and appurtenances belonging to it. (Will proved Sept. 20, 1589.) No remains now exist of either of the chapels.





Crest of Septvans and Shield of Arms of St. Nicholas.

CHAPTER V.

NOTES AND QUERIES, GENEALOGICAL AND HERALDIC.

AT the entrance to these premises we feel the necessity of affixing some such notice as is usually to be found at the gates of manufactories or the doors of private edifices or public works in the course of construction, viz., "Nobody admitted except on business;" but as the reader has already (we hope) paid for admission, he cannot be so unceremoniously excluded. It is only, therefore, for us to warn him frankly, that unless he have special business herein, he will find nothing to

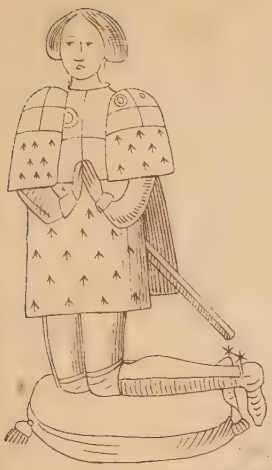


Fig 1.

Fig. 7
p. 291 note.

Fig. 2.

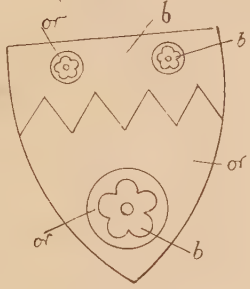


Fig. 8.
p. 353 note.

Fig. 4.

Fig 3.

Fig. 9.
p 356.

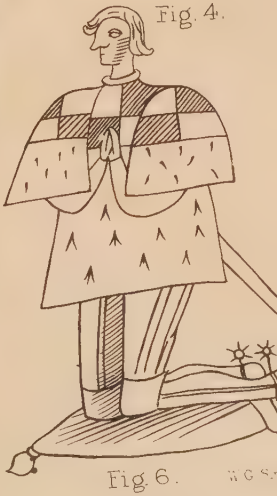


Fig. 6.

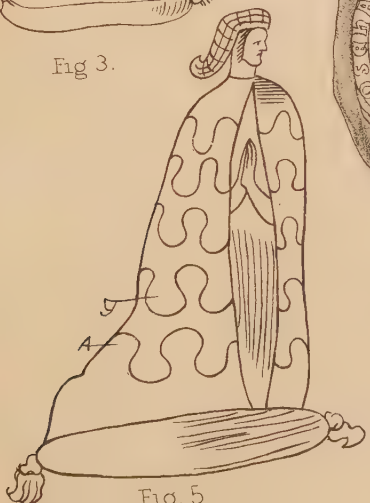


Fig. 5

ide p. 189 and posts

interest or amuse him. We have raked together a heap of dry archæological material out of "the dust of dead ages," presenting to his sight a dreary region, in which he will feel no inclination to wander. To the antiquary, however, it opens a rich field of information as well as inquiry, as our subject has led us most unexpectedly into tracks either utterly neglected by previous explorers, or very superficially and imperfectly examined by them.

Of the great Anglo-Norman families who from the time of the Conquest to, at least, the close of the 14th century, were most intimately connected with the parish of Ash, little is known beyond their names, and the armorial ensigns either actually borne by, or commonly attributed to them. Although the stock from which so many noble houses have sprung—although those ancient coats are still to be seen quartered in so many achievements, and studding the roof of Canterbury cathedral—the pedigrees of the most important which are presented to us in the various published Baronages and Peerages, or existing in MS. collections, are so imperfect, unconnected, and contradictory, that while they cannot be relied upon, even as regards the direct male line, they afford us little or no information of the collateral branches, and but rarely enlighten us on the very important question of matrimonial alliances. Of some there are actually no pedigrees, either in print or in MSS. In illustration of our second chapter, "The Descent

of the Manors," we have drawn up the following genealogical notices, and propose to examine the evidence on which they are founded in chronological order. We will therefore commence with the family of

D'ARQUES,

latinized De Arcis, and in English, Arches, which is the earliest one we find holding land in this parish. William de Arcis, as we have stated in our second chapter (p. 39), is recorded in Domesday as holding one suling of land in Fleet. This William de Arcis is supposed to be the same personage as William, the son of Godfrey, who in the same valuable record is stated to hold Folkestone and various other property in Kent, and specially three houses in Dover, one of which was the Gihalla or Gishalla of the burgesses. All that is known of him with any certainty is, first, that in the lifetime of the Conqueror he claimed certain lands which had belonged to Gozelin, Vicomte d'Arques (a bourg and vicomté of the Pays de Caux, in Normandy), of whom he assumed to be the grandson. The late Mr. Stapleton on this remarks, that "Gozelin was his grandfather by his mother's side; for Osborne de Bolbec . . . . is *reported* to have been his paternal grandfather." We presume the report alluded to is that of Guillaume de Jumiége, who states as much in his 8th book, cap. 37. The learned authors of "Recherches sur le Domesday" differ from Mr. Stapleton and his apparent authority. They assert that he was the

son of an Osborne de Arcis, who was the son of William, the son of Gozelin, Viscomte d'Arques, thus making our William the *great*-grandson of Gozelin, and rejecting his descent from Bolbec. But, if their story be true, he could not be the Lord of Folkestone we find in Domesday, because he is therein distinctly described as "Willielmus filius *Goidfride*," and not of Osborne, as they make him. Here we find ourselves between Scylla and Charybdis at starting, with only one fact to depend upon,—that he was the grandson, by his own account, of Gozelin the Viscomte. The second fact concerning him is, that he had a wife named Beatrix, who survived him, and had in dower the manors of Newington near Hythe, and Redingfield.* Of her parentage we at present know nothing; but the mother of William de Arcis, who is said to have been a daughter of Gozelin the Viscomte, is also called Beatrix; and until clearer evidence is discovered, we are inclined to believe in a theory which would reconcile the above contradictions. We believe William de Arcis to be the son of a Godfrey or Geoffrey FitzGozelin or Jocceline, an elder son of Gozelin, Viscomte d'Arques, in that case his paternal grandfather; and we think it highly probable that Beatrix, the daughter of Gozelin, married, as it is stated, Geoffrey de Bolbec, by whom she had a

* She gave to the church of Lonlay a moiety of tithes of Newington, co. Kent.

daughter, named after herself Beatrice, who became the wife of her first cousin William de Arcis.

We are sustained in this view of the case by the fact that there were other male members of the family of De Arcis existing at this period. A William and a Hugh de Arcis, said by the authors of the "Recherches" to have been brothers of Beatrix d'Arques, the wife of Geoffrey de Bolbec, from the eldest of whom they consequently derive the Lord of Folkestone, as we have already mentioned.* But though we consider them to be mistaken on the latter point, there is evidence of the existence of an Osbert and his son a William de Arcis, the latter of whom had a daughter and heiress named Ivetta, who married Adam Bruce, of Skelton, and after his death in 1180 became the wife of Richard de Flamville.† That they were the son and grandson of another William de Arcis, brother of Beatrix, we will not dispute: all we contend for is, that they had an elder brother, Geoffrey FitzJocelin, who was the father of our William FitzGeoffrey, Lord of Folkestone, or otherwise they must have carried off the representation. Another line of this family seems to have terminated in the person of Jana, the

* There was a Hugo, son of William, holding a large portion of the land in this manor, and who is first mentioned after William de Arcis. This Hugo must surely have been his son, and if by Beatrice de Bolbec, must have died without issue in his father's lifetime, as his sisters were undoubtedly co-heirs of William.

† Vincent in B. 2, Coll. Arms, makes Flamville her first husband —at all events, she survived both.—*Vide* Mon. Ang. vol. ii. p. 43.

daughter and heiress of a Richard de Arches, and the wife of Sir John Dinham, by whom she had a daughter Isabella, who married, first, Fulke Fitzwarin; and secondly, Sir John Sapcote.* The coat attributed to the family of Arches, and which must have been invented for them in the 12th or 13th century, is gules, three arches argent, which is brought in by Dinham, and sometimes seen quarterly with it in the achievements of several of our nobility and gentry.†

William de Arcis is supposed by our English genealogists to have died about the latter end of the reign of Rufus; but the authors of the "Recherches" assert that he took the habit of a monk in 1088, and died, circa 1090, Abbot of St. Severs at Rouen. Be this as it may, it is certain that he left by his widow Beatrice two daughters: Matilda, who married William the Chamberlain de Tancarville, who inherited the Norman possessions of her father;

* Amongst other members of this family may be mentioned Radulph and Robert de Arches.—(Mon. Ang. vol. i. pp. 330—773.) Herbert de Arches and William, "fil. suus," witnesses to a charter of Julianna, daughter of Alexander de Alreton, and wife of Richard, son of Hugo, to Kirkdale Abbey.—(Whitaker's History of Leeds, vol. i. p. 126.) Also Peter de Arches, who held half a knight's fee in Potter Newton, co. York, of the Earl of Lincoln.—(Ibid. vol. ii. p. 120.) An Agnes de Archis was wife of Herbert de St. Quintin, and founded the nunnery of Chillinge or Nun-Kelling, co. York, in 1152.—Mon. Ang. vol. i.

† As that of Richard de Arches, it is given in a Roll of Arms, of the time of Edward I. or II., a copy of which is in Vincent, 165, p. 63, Coll. Arms.

and Emma, the heiress of Folkestone, who married, first, Nigel de Muneville, or Monville, and secondly, Manasses, sometimes called Robert, Count de Guisnes, to the latter of whom she ultimately brought the lands which had been settled on her mother in dower at Newington and Redingfield. In conjunction with her first husband Nigel she founded the Priory of Folkestone in 1095. By him she had a daughter named Matilda, who carried the lordship of Folkestone and the land at Fleet into the great family of Avranches. By her second husband she had also an only child, named Rosa or Sybilla, of whom we shall say more under the head of De Vere. We must previously, however, follow the issue of the elder daughter and co-heiress Matilda to the termination of the direct male line of

AVRANCHES.

Contemporary with the Conqueror we find a William d'Avranches who was, according to Ordericus Vitalis, the son of Guitmond, Witmund, or Wymond, and cousin (*i. e.* blood relation) to Richard, surnamed Goz, father of Hugh d'Avranches, the famous Earl of Chester. The exact degree of relationship has yet to be proved; but it is no part of our present inquiry, and we shall not, therefore, encumber ourselves and our readers with more questions than are absolutely necessary. William d'Avranches is not named in Domesday, but he appears to have been one of eight knights intrusted by John de Fiennes with the wardship of Dover Castle. There is some

reason to believe that his wife was Emma,* a daughter of Baldwin de Brionne, Viscomte or Sheriff of Devonshire; but whoever might be his wife, by her he had a son, named Rualo or Ruallon,† to whom Henry I. gave in marriage Matilda, the only child of Nigel de Muneville by his wife Emma d'Arques, and heiress of Folkestone.‡

Rualo was Sheriff of Kent in 1131, and died before 1147, leaving by Matilda a son named William, and a daughter, a nun at Elstow.§ Not even the Christian name of the wife of the second William d'Avranches has yet been discovered; but it is clear that he had issue at least three sons: Simon, Rualo, and Geoffrey. William died in or before 1190, and was succeeded by Simon, who confirmed to the monks of St. Andrew of Northampton the grants of William his *father* and Matilda his *grandmother*. This clearly proves that he was the *son*, and not

* According to others, Alicia. She was the widow of William Avenel, by whom she had Ralph Avenel, Baron of Okehampton, who married Matilda, daughter of Baldwin de Redvers, Earl of Devon.

† And another, supposed to be the elder, named Robert, the adopted heir of his uncle, Richard de Brionne, and who recovered from his half-brother Ralph Avenel the barony of Okehampton.

‡ She survived her husband, and gave to the church of St. Andrew, Northampton, for the good of her soul, the souls of her father, her husband, and her *sons*, the manor of Sywell, in the county of Northampton. This gift was confirmed by her son William in 1147.—Mon. Ang. vol. i. p. 680.

§ With whom she gave to the priory there 4½ virgates of land in Sywell.—Mon. Ang. *ut supra.*

brother, and heir of William, as set down in some pedigrees.

In 1190 (2nd Richard I.) he was in account with the Exchequer touching certain ships going to the Holy Land; and in 1194 (6th Richard I.) paid £4. 15s. towards the king's ransom.* In 1197 (8th Richard I.) we find his brother Rualo (or Ruellinus as he is called in the record) party to the final concord with Elias de Beauchamp which afforded us so much information respecting Richborough in the 12th century; and in 1209, as we have already stated (page 42, *note*), Simon had a dispute with Baldwin, Count de Guisnes, respecting some lands in Newington, near Hythe, which we have seen formed part of the dower of Beatrice d'Arques. Simon d'Avranches married a lady named Cecilia, said by Segar (MS. Baronagium, Coll. Arms) to have been one of the family of Criol, or Keriel, another of those great Kentish houses of which we hear so much and know so little. The date of his death is uncertain, but it occurred in or before the 16th of John, 1214, when his son and heir William had a charter for a fair at Folkestone. Besides William (third of that name), who succeeded him, he had issue by the same wife three other sons: Geoffrey, Simon, and Roger. Cecilia survived her husband, and in 1215 sold her manor of Sutton, in Sussex, to the monks of Robertsbridge, to raise money to ransom her son William, who had been taken prisoner by the king's forces.

* Rot. Pip. *sub ann.*

William confirmed the grants of lands in Northeye which his mother Cecilia, then living, had made to Edmund, son of William Goding.* He claimed the manor of Avranches against Hugh Bigot, Earl of Norfolk, ninth of Henry III. (1224), was constable of Dover Castle tenth of Henry III. (1225), and deceased before the fifteenth of Henry III. (1230). He married Maud, daughter and co-heir of William de Bocland, by Maud, daughter and co-heir of William de Say. She was also sister and heir of Hawisia de Bocland, wife of John de Bovil, and succeeded to her lands in 1226. Looking at this descent, there can be little doubt that the possessions of the family of Avranches must have been largely increased by this marriage, the issue of which was a son and daughter. The son, William, was a minor in 1230, when Hubert de Burgh paid 50 marks for his custody and marriage, and still under age in 1233, when the Bishop of Exeter paid 2,000 marks to have his custody, intending to marry him to a daughter of Richard de Chilham and Roesia de Dover. Eventually, however, he is said to have married Mabel, daughter of Nicholas de Sandwich,† but deceased without issue before 1236, when his

* MS. Coll. Arm. Vincent, 88, p. 72. Geoffrey and Simon witnessed this grant of their brother William. Sir Roger, the fourth son, is said to have been the progenitor of the family of *Everinge*, co. Kent. The drawing of the seal of William in the above MS., represents him on horseback, with the shield chevronny; the obverse displaying a kite-shape shield, with the same arms.

† MS. Pedigree William Courthope, Esq. Somerset Herald.

sister Matilda or Maud became heiress of the whole barony of Folkestone.

This great heiress became the second wife of Hamo, son of Robert de Crevecœur, who did homage for her lands twentieth of Henry III. (1236), when, according to the presumed date of her mother's marriage, she could not have been more than fifteen. From her birth she appears to have been the ward of Peter de Maulay, out of whose custody her father received her in the first or second year of her age.*

Of the Crevecœurs we shall speak anon; but we must now return to the collateral descent from Emma d'Arques the first lady of Folkestone, who, as we have already stated, married, secondly, Manasses, Comte de Guisnes, and show the connection of this branch with the families of

VERE AND BOLBEC.

The only issue of the marriage of Emma d'Arques with the Comte de Guisnes appears to have been a daughter, known like her father by two different names, Rosa and Sibilla. She married Henri Castellan de Bourbourg, by whom she had an only child, a daughter, named Beatrice. Rosa died in her father's lifetime, and her mother Emma, Comtesse de Guisnes, being an English woman, advised the selection of an English husband for the young heiress. The

* Close Rolls, 5th of Henry III. mem. 12.

choice fell on Alberic, the son of Alberic or Aubrey de Vere, the king's chamberlain. The marriage is said to have been hastened in consequence of the precarious state of the health of Beatrice, and as in case of her death without issue the comté of Guisnes would revert to the next heir, Arnold de Gand. On the death of Manasses in 1137, Alberic de Vere was requested by his father-in-law Henri de Bourbourg, to hasten and take possession of the county of Guisnes. He complied with the request, and was invested by the Comte de Flanders, his suzerain; but, preferring a residence at the English court, he neglected his matrimonial domains and, sooth to say, his wife, till at length affairs culminated in a revolution and a divorce; Baldwin of Ardres marrying the Countess Beatrice, who survived, however, but a few days, and dying without issue by either of her husbands, Arnold de Gand succeeded as next heir to the county of Guisnes. This little history, which we have condensed as much as possible from Mr. Stapleton's elaborate essay, is necessary to the clear understanding of the position of Aubrey de Vere the younger, who was thus styled Count or Earl before he was Earl of Oxford. His father, the king's chamberlain, was killed in London during a riot in the year 1140, and left by his wife Alicia, beside Alberic of whom we have been speaking, several sons and two daughters: Rohesia, married first to Geoffrey de Mandeville, Earl of Essex, and secondly to Pagan de Beauchamp; and Juliana, married first to Hugh

Bigod, Earl of Norfolk, and secondly to Walkeline de Mamignot. Alberic having become one of the most active partisans of the Empress Matilda against King Stephen, had a grant from her in the year 1141 of all the land of William d'Avranches together with all the inheritance he claimed on the part of his wife as the heiress of William d'Arques,* and the promise of the town and castle of Colchester, as soon as they should be in her power, also the reversion of the earldom of Cambridgeshire and the third penny thereof, as an earl ought to have, provided the King of Scots had it not; but in that case Alberic was to have the choice of four earldoms, —Oxfordshire, Berkshire, Wiltshire, and Dorsetshire, —according to the decision of her brother, the Earl of Gloucester, Earl Geoffrey (of Essex), and Earl Gilbert (of Pembroke). His brothers Geoffrey and Robert were also made barons, and his brother William was promised the Chancellorship of England.

King Henry II., on his accession to the throne, in 1135, made the famous Thomas à Becket chancellor, but performed that part of his mother's promise which related to an earldom for Alberic, and gave him that of Oxford.† Alberic enjoyed his honour

* This was the land at Newington and Redingfield which we have seen her grandmother Emma brought to her second husband, Manasses de Guisnes.

† William, in lieu of the chancellorship, had the bishopric of Hereford.

for nearly forty years, dying 26th December, 1194, and was succeeded by his son of the same name, who in the sixth of John, A.D. 1205, paid fine to the king of 100 marks to be confirmed in his earldom and in the receipt of the third penny. Dying without issue male in 1214, his next brother, Robert, succeeded as third Earl of Oxford. All this is perfectly clear and indisputable, and consequently those genealogists who are content with recording the descent of the earldom have no difficulties to contend with. But that does not satisfy us. We desire to know who were the wives, and especially the mothers, of these earls; and on referring to the existing catalogues or pedigrees for such information, we are astounded at the mass of confusion and contradiction they exhibit.*

In order to arrive at something like the facts, we must retrace our steps. Alberic de Vere, the king's Chamberlain, slain in 1140, and father of Alberic, first Earl of Oxford, was himself the son of an Alberic de Vere, founder of Colne Abbey, county of Essex. We have, therefore, including Alberic, the second Earl of Oxford, four Albericks de Vere in immediate succession. Dugdale would make it five, by commencing with the "Albericus Comes" of Domesday; but it is now generally conceded that he

* Mr. J. Gough Nichols, in his paper on the Earldom of Oxford (Journal of the Archæological Institute, vol. ix. p. 17), to which we naturally turned for information, has not touched upon the points in question.

was not of this family; the earliest of whom at present identified is the Albericus de Vere of the same record, founder of Colne Abbey, as above stated, and father of the king's chamberlain.

This Alberic the first, it appears, from a confirmation charter of Henry I. * and also by a charter of Geoffrey de Vere, the eldest son of Alberic and who died in his father's lifetime, had for wife a lady named Beatrix, by some called a sister of William the Conqueror, and by Dugdale confounded with Beatrix de Bourbourgh, who married this Alberic's grandson. All we can really rely upon is that her name was Beatrix and that she was the mother of Godfrey de Vere, the eldest son, as acknowledged by him. It is, however, probable, that she was also the mother of his brothers Alberic, William, Robert, and Roger.

Alberic the second certainly married a lady named Adeliza or Alicia, stated in the Book of the Miracles of St. Osyth to have been the daughter of Gilbert de Clare. Kennet asserts that she was the daughter of Roger de Ivray, and brought her husband the manor of Islip, in Oxfordshire; and Sandford, in his Genealogical History, marries him to Mabel, a daughter of Robert, Consul of Gloucester; but we prefer the authority of the "Libri de Miraculis St. Osythæ," which is attributed to the pen of one of

* Henry I. confirmed the gift of Alberic de Vere of twenty acres of land to St. Mary of Abbingdon for the soul of Godfrey, his son, deceased.

the sons of Alberic by this very Adeliza, a priest at St. Osyth's, and brother of William de Vere, Bishop of Hereford.* A curious corroboration of his statement is to be found in the life of Giraldus Cambrensis, which is more valuable as it occurs incidentally and without reference to any disputed point of genealogy. We give it in the words of the biographer:—

"It happened about this time that by an order from the king, Rhys ap Gruffydh was summoned to hold a conference with Baldwin, Archbishop of Canterbury, and Ranulf de Glanville, chief justice of England, at Hereford. When seated at dinner in the house of *William de Vere*, bishop of that see, and Walter, a noble baron, *both of whom were descended from the noble family of Clare*, Giraldus, the archdeacon, approached the table, and standing before them, thus facetiously addressed himself to Prince Rhys: 'You may congratulate yourself, Rhys, on being now seated between *two of the Clare family*, whose inheritance you possess!' for at that time he held all Cardiganshire, which he had recovered from Roger, Earl of Clare. Rhys, a man of excellent understanding, and particularly ready at an answer, immediately replied: 'It is indeed true that for a considerable time we were deprived of our inheri-

* It appears she gave to the monks of St. Osyth lands of the value of seven pounds per annum, lying at Dalham, Frustall, and Dinham, being part of her portion in frank marriage, and which Alberic, her son, confirmed.

tance by the Clares; but as it was our fate to be losers, we had at least the satisfaction of being dispossessed of it by noble and illustrious personages, not by the hands of an idle and obscure people.' The bishop, desirous of returning the compliment to Prince Rhys, replied: 'And we also, since it has been decreed that we should lose the possession of those territories, are well pleased that so noble and upright a prince as Rhys should be at this time lord over them.'" *

It would need strong evidence to rebut the contemporaneous evidence of two such witnesses as the priest of St. Osyth, the son of Adeliza, and Giraldus de Barri, the acquaintance of her other son, the Bishop of Hereford, in whose cathedral he was a prebend.

By the Book of St. Osyth we find also that the issue of Alberic by Adeliza was five sons. Alberic, the first Earl of Oxford; William, Bishop of Hereford; Gilbert, Lord of Bayham, county of Essex; Geoffrey, who married Isabel de Say; and the aforesaid priest of St. Osyth. Their daughters were Rohesia, Countess of Essex; Julianna, Countess of Norfolk, before mentioned; and Adeliza, wife of Henry de Essex, and subsequently of Roger Fitz Richard, Lord of Warkworth.

We now come to the third Alberic, who, as we have shown, was, during his father's lifetime, undoubtedly

* Itinerary, vol. i. p. 23.

married to Beatrix de Bourbourgh, Countess de Guisnes, from whom he was divorced, and by whom he had no issue. As this fact has only been elicited through the labours of the late Mr. Stapleton (Dugdale, and previous writers, having confounded her with her husband's grandmother of the same name), she is not to be found, of course, in any of the older pedigrees in this her proper place; but to make up for the omission, three other wives have been accorded to him—Lucia, Euphemia, and Agnes. The first, on the authority of Leland, and supposed by Segar to have been a daughter of William de Arches by a daughter of William de Avranches, we may dismiss in a few words.

She was the first prioress, and perhaps founder of a nunnery in the parish of Castle Heningham; but whoever she might be, there is not the slightest evidence that she was ever the wife of Alberic; and Weever, who prints the lament of the prioress, her successor, for her loss, only suggests that, "belike she was one of that honourable house," *i.e.*, a De Vere.* The next, Euphemia, is said to have been the daughter of Sir William de Cantelupe. Of this we have no proof; but her charter to Colne Abbey is conclusive as to her being the wife of Alberic. In it, as the Countess Euphemia, she gives to the monks of Colne, with the consent of her husband, the Earl Alberic, 100 shillings from her manor of Icklington,

* Fun. Mon. p. 621.

for the health of the body and soul of Stephen, King of England, and for the soul of his queen Matilda, and the soul of Earl Eustace, their son, which manor of Icklington, she states, was given her by the said king and queen in frank marriage. This charter is witnessed by Earl Albert himself and his brother, Gilbert de Vere.* This is very important, as although the document is not dated, there can be little doubt about the period in which it was executed. The particular mention of the *body* of Stephen shows that the king was at that time living, his queen, Matilda, and his son Eustace being dead, therefore not earlier than 1152; and the fact of the manor of Ikclington having been given to her by Stephen and Matilda as a marriage portion proves that Alberic must have been in favour with that monarch and his

* Ego Eufemia Comitissa concessu comitis Alberici mariti mei dedi monachis de Colne redditione C s. in Iclintonia cum corpore meo sepeliendo pro salute *corporis* et animæ Stephani Regis Angliæ et pro anima Matildis Reginæ et pro anima Comitis Eustachie filii eorum, &c. . . . . sicut Rex Stephannis et Matildis Regina uxor sua qui prænominatum manerium de Iclintonia mihi dederunt in libero maritagio, &c. Witnessed by "Comite Alberico et Gilberto de Veer."—(Dugdale, Mon., vol. ii. p. 877.) Alberic afterwards founded a nunnery at Icklington, in the diocese of Ely. The Empress also granted to Alberic, Diham (Dinham), "which belonged to Robert de Ramis and was the right of the *nephews of this earl;* viz. *the sons of Roger de Ramis.*"—(Dugdale's Baronage.) As Alberic had no sister married to Roger *de Ramis,* it would seem as if the earl had married Roger's sister. The family of De Ramis, Raimes, or Raines, is always alluded to as of great importance, and has never yet been thoroughly investigated.

queen at the time that marriage took place, which, as he was divorced from Beatrix about 1143-4, and the queen died in 1151, could have been only a few years after his zealous partisanship of the Empress Matilda and her son Prince Henry. Another remarkable circumstance is, that in the charter above mentioned Alberic and Euphemia style themselves Earl (or Count) and Countess, although he had ceased to be Count de Guisnes when he was divorced from the Countess Beatrix (who carried the county and title to her second husband, Baldwin de Ardres), and was not made Earl of Oxford till 1155, first of Henry II. This appears to sustain the opinion that he was by descent Comte de Vere, as we find him indeed called by Giraldus Cambrensis; but the royal gift of the manor of Icklington and the favour of Stephen and his queen have still to be accounted for, and we are therefore induced to believe that Euphemia was not simply the daughter of Sir William de Cantelupe, but, like her predecessor Beatrix, a countess in her own right, and probably a relation or connection of either Stephen or Matilda, who must assuredly have had some strong reason for thus sanctioning the marriage and endowing the bride of one of their chief opponents.

Whether Euphemia lived to be Countess of Oxford we are at present without means of deciding; but the book of Colne Abbey gives Alberic a third wife, named Agnes, and, according to Giraldus Cambrensis, he was married before 1163 to a

daughter of Henry de Essex, from whom he was striving to be divorced, on account of the disgrace of her father, at the time that she was pregnant with his eldest son Alberic, the fourth of that name, who succeeded him as second Earl of Oxford.* But he

* Itin. cap. vii. He does not mention her Christian name, but, in speaking of natural defects inherited by children from their parents, he says, "A like miracle of nature occurred in Alberic, son of Alberic, *Earl of Vere*, whose father, during the pregnancy of his mother, the daughter of Henry of Essex ('filia scilicet Henrici de Essexia'), having laboured to procure a divorce on account of the ignominy of her father, the child, when born, had the same blemish in its eye as the father had got from a casual hurt." Sir Richard Colt Hoare, in his annotations on this chapter, vol. ii. p. 132, considers this to be a biographical error, as he found by the pedigrees of the Vere and Essex families that "Henry de Essex married a daughter of the *second* Alberic de Vere." We have stated, on the authority of the work of St. Osyth, that he did marry a daughter of the *second* Alberic, who was of course sister of the third; and we have here the circumstantial statement of an actual contemporary, who, being born in 1146, was seventeen years of age when Henry de Essex was defeated by Robert de Montfort in the famous trial by battle in 1163, and thereby adjudged guilty of the cowardly and treasonable offence of throwing down the royal standard, of which he was the hereditary bearer, and flying from the field during the conflict between the king's forces and those of Owen Gwyneth, Prince of Powys, in 1157. Henry II. spared his life, but ordered him to be shorn a monk and retire into the Abbey of Reading. These remarkable events are just such as would be likely to make a powerful impression on the mind of a youth of the age of Giraldus, and who was subsequently the friend and companion of Henry II. and of William de Vere, Bishop of Hereford, the brother of that very Earl Alberic, with whom and with his countess indeed it is very probable he was also acquainted; as, by his own account, this Itinerary was written in 1190, which would be four years previous to the death of the earl, who seems to

had also issue Robert, afterwards third earl, and Henry, from whom the De Veres of Addington are said to be descended; and as Giraldus does not inform us whether or not he succeeded in obtaining the divorce, we are left in doubt as to their being children of the same mother.

Unfortunately, in none of the charters of his sons and successors that we have yet met with is there any mention of their mother, nor do we know whether or not she survived her husband, who died 26th December, 1194; but the presumption is, that she did not.

The fourth Alberic de Vere, and second Earl of Oxford, is said to have married Adeliza, daughter of Roger Bigod, and died without issue 1214; but now comes the hardest knot in this exceedingly entangled skein.

Robert de Vere succeeded his brother Alberic, and was at that time the husband of Isabella de Bolbec. Of these two facts the proofs are manifold. The Pipe-roll of the second of Richard I., 1191, records that Earl Alberic rendered an account of 500 marks to have the daughter of Walter de Bolebec for a wife

have married his first cousin, unless she were the daughter of Henry de Essex by a former wife. The facts and dates we have cited give us the following result :—

Beatrice, = 1st wife, divorced 1143.	Alberic de Vere, = 1st Earl of Oxford, died 1194.	Euphemia, = 2nd wife, married before 1151.	Agnes, 3rd wife, married before 1163.

to his son, not named.* It would seem that the marriage did not take place previous to the earl's death in 1194, for in the Pipe-roll of the ninth of John, 1208, it is stated that Robert de Vere gave 200 marks and three palfreys, to have Y(sabella) de Bolbec to wife, provided she consented; and in which case he would pay the fine which she the said Y. had agreed to pay the king, not to be compelled to marry by the plea of Earl Alberic.† On the death of Robert, Earl of Oxford, fifth of Henry III., 1221, his widow, Isabella, paid a fine to the king of £2,228 2s. 9½d., for the wardship of her son, then about six years old, after which she married Henry de Novant, and was deceased in 1245, when Hugh de Vere, who had succeeded his father as fourth Earl of Oxford, on attaining his majority in 1236, had livery of his mother's estates; as in the Fine roll of the twenty-ninth of Henry III. we read, "The king received the homage of Hugh, Earl of Oxford, son and heir of Isabella de Bolbeck, late Countess of Oxford."‡ Now in the face of this evidence we have to account for the existence of two charters, in both of which

* "Comes Alberici reddit computum de D marcis pro habenda filia Walteri de Bolbeck ad opus filii sui."—(Mag. Rot. Pip. A° 2nd Ric. I.)

† "Robertus de Ver CC marcas et iij palefridos pro habenda in uxorem Y de Bolbec si ipsa voluerit ita quod si cum duxerit in uxorem ipse reddit finem quem ipsa Y fecit ne distringatur ad maritandum per placitam comitis Alberici."—(Mag. Rot. Pip. A° 9 John.)

‡ "Rex cepit homagium Hugo. co. Oxon. filii et hered. Isabella de Bolbeck quondam Comitissa Oxon."—(Rot. Fin. A° 29 Hen. III.)

Isabella, the daughter of Walter de Bolbec, is distinctly averred to be the wife of Alberic de Vere, who is in one specified as the son of Earl Alberic. The first is in the cartulary of Nottley Abbey, and is a confirmation of the grant of Earl Walter Gifford of lands in the vill of Hillerdon to the church and canons of Saint Maria de Crendon, by Alberic de Vere and Isabella, daughter of Walter de Bolbec, his wife, with the consent of Hugh de Bolbec.* The other is in the Harleian Collection of Charters, British Museum, No. 57, c. 3, and is a grant by Alberic de Vere, son of the Earl Alberic and his wife Isabella de Bolbec ("ego et Isabella de Bolbec, *uxor* mea") to William Fitz Dering, of the land of Hoquering.† Had the evidence occurred in only the

* "Notum sit omnibus tam p̃tibus quam futuris quo ego Albericus de Ver et *Isabella de Bolbec filia Walteri de Bolbec sponsa mea*," &c. . . . The Hugh de Bolbec whose consent was required to this gift must have been the cousin of Isabella, as her uncle Hugh was dead in 1165.—(*Vide* page 282, note.)

† It is indexed, "Carta Alberici de Ver fil Alberici comitis et *feminæ suæ Isabellæ filiæ Walteri de Bolbec*, Willielmo fil Derinck de Terra de Hoquering, cum sig." The seal is a curiosity, as it is one used by this family immediately previous to the introduction of armorial bearings, and represents a human figure erect with arms extended, the lower half hidden by a monstrous animal, a lion, dragon, or dolphin, or more probably one of those nondescripts we find upon the shields of the Norman knights in the Bayeux tapestry. The arms of De Vere, in the reign of Henry III., were Quarterly Gules and Or, in the first quarter a mullet argent.—(Effigy of Robert, third Earl of Oxford, Hatfield Broadoak, and seal of the same) This mullet was certainly borne as a difference. Now it is worthy of observation that Geoffrey de Mignaville, Earl of Essex, bore the same

first charter, it might have been questionable. It might have been incorrectly transcribed, or altogether a forgery; but we cannot so easily dispose of the second. The original, with its curious seal, can be seen by any one in the British Museum, and the words "son of the Earl Alberic" show that it must have been executed during the lifetime of the first Earl of Oxford, *i.e. ante* Dec. 26th, 1194, and subsequent to 1191, when we know that the earl gave King Richard I. 500 marks to marry a daughter of Walter de Bolbec to a son of his, not named. Now, unless there were two Isabellas, daughters of a Walter de Bolbec, it seems clear that the son he had selected as the husband of Isabella was his eldest, Alberic, and that they were accordingly married during his lifetime. That there were *not* two Isabellas, or, at least, that the daughter of Walter de Bolbec, for the disposal of whose hand the Earl Alberic paid 500 marks, was the Isabella eventually wife of Robert de Vere, his second son, is equally clear by the proof that he, Robert, in addition to his own fine, promised to pay that which "Y. de Bolbec," the lady in question, had agreed to give the King that she might not be compelled to marry according to the plea of Earl Alberic. And yet this contract with the King was entered into in 1208, six years before the death of Alberic de Vere, second Earl of Oxford, with whom in the two

within a bordure vairy, and Clavering descended from Fitz-Richard, the same with a bend sable.

charters we have just quoted, she is associated as his wife! The only inference that we can possibly draw from these data is, that Isabella, who was certainly a minor in 1191,* and is only spoken of as "the Lady Isabella" in 1198, at which time she would, under ordinary circumstances, have been Countess of Oxford, was married to Alberic in her nonage, and separated from him for some reason before 1198,† and that a dissolution of this marriage, and a dispensation from the Pope, on the ground of non-cohabitation, enabled her to marry her brother-in-law, Robert de Vere, in 1208, when she had become of full age, and after she had protested against being compelled to marry contrary to her own inclination. We are by no means confident that this is the clue to the mystery, but see no other way to reconcile such startling contradictions. For Alberic's marriage with Adeliza, daughter of Roger Bigod, Earl of Norfolk, we have no positive authority; but without disputing it, we know that he died without issue, and therefore escape

* If the following record applies to her, she was then (1191) in her sixteenth year, as she was stated to have been in the tenth year of her age in 1185. "Filia Walteri de Bolbec que fuit ix. annorum a festo sancti Michaelis fuit in custodia Comitis Alberici."—(Rot. de Dom.)

† Even infantile marriages were by no means uncommon in a much later age, the object being to secure the property of the heiress as soon as possible. Isabella was fifteen when she was *sold* to the earl for his son; twenty-three when she was mentioned as "the Lady Isabella" in the Final Concord, A.D. 1198, thirty-three in 1208, and nearly seventy at the time of her death in 1245.

one difficulty which might have seriously increased our embarrassment.*

We have now struggled into the light of day. The Close Roll of the sixteenth of John announces the succession of the Earl of Oxford on the death of his brother Alberic,† and that of the seventeenth gives to Robert de Vere, Earl of Oxford, the third penny of the county.‡ We have already mentioned the date of his death, the enormous fine paid by his widow Isabella for the wardship of her son Hugh, her subsequent marriage with Henry de Novant, and death in 1245.

Our next step in the pedigree is to show that in the seventh of Henry III., 1223, Margaret de Quincy, Countess of Winchester, paid 1,000 marks to the king for permission to marry her daughter Hawisia to Hugh, the young son and heir of Robert de Vere, formerly Earl of Oxford, and who at that time could not be more than fourteen.§ Hugh died in the forty-seventh

* Alberic, if we may rely upon the statement of Giraldus, was born a few months after the disgrace of his grandfather, Henry de Essex, in 1163, at latest in 1164. This would make him twenty-six or twenty-seven at the time of his marriage with Isabella. According to the same calculation, he was not more than fifty at the period of his decease in 1214.

† "Admissus comitem Oxon post mortem fris Alberici comitis."—(Rot. Claus. 16 John, p. 2, m. 19.)

‡ "Robtus de Veer Comes Oxon de tertio denario comitatus Oxon."—(Rot. Claus. 17 John, m. 30.)

§ "Margareta comitissa Winton finem fecit cum Dno Rege per 1,000 marcas ut Hawisia filia sua marietur Hugoni fil et her R de Veer quondam comitis Oxon."—(Rot. Fin. 7 Hen. III. m. 7.)

of Henry III., leaving by his countess, the aforesaid Hawisia, a son named Robert, twenty-three years of age at his father's death, and who succeeded him as fifth Earl of Oxford, and, marrying Alice, daughter of Gilbert Lord Sandford, Chamberlain to Queen Eleanor, died in the twenty-fourth of Edward I., 1297, when it was found that he held the manor of Fleet-next-Sandwich, of John, son of John de Sandwich, and that Robert de Vere, son of said Robert, was his next heir, and twenty-four years of age.

We may here dismiss the De Veres, as the remainder of the pedigree is unconnected with this inquiry, and has been sufficiently set down in our second chapter, on the descent of the manor of Fleet, and return to the family of Bolbec, respecting which the greatest uncertainty exists in all its branches.

If we are to credit the assertion of William the monk of Jumièges, and we admit that we have no evidence to rebut it, one Osborne de Bolbec, by Avelina, sister of Gunnora, Duchess of Normandy, was the progenitor of half the noble houses in England, but specially of the great family of Giffard, and of that which retained the original designation of Bolbec. We have already, in this chapter, under the head of D'Arques, examined the conflicting testimony of the descent of Emma, the heiress of Folkestone, from Osborne, and stated our view of the connection between the families of De Arcis and Bolbec. Beside the Geoffrey de Bolbec there men-

tioned, there was a Hugh de Bolbec, who, at the time of the compilation of Domesday, possessed several lordships in various counties, but particularly in Buckinghamshire, and who is said to have had two sons, Walter and Hugh, who succeeded each other in the barony of Bolbec.* Nearly at the same period, however, another Hugh de Bolbec, living tenth Henry I., in Northumberland, had also two sons named Walter and Hugh. Walter founded the priory of Blancland, in that county, and died before thirty-third of Henry II., leaving issue by his wife, Margaret, a son and heir, Walter, who died without issue seventh of John, when Hugh, the second son, was found heir to his brother Walter. He was one of the justices itinerant for the counties of Northampton, York, Northumberland, Cumberland, and Lancaster, and died forty-third of Henry III., 1259, leaving by his wife Theophania four daughters and coheirs; viz., Philippa, wife of Roger de Lancaster; Margery, first married to Nicholas Corbet, and secondly to Ralph, son of William, Lord of Grimthorp; Alice, wife of Walter de Huntercombe; and Maud, of Hugh de la Val.

We have been particular in clearing off this line of the Bolbecs of Northumberland, because from the

* His wife appears to have been Hawisia or Helewisia de Courtenay. (*Vide* pages 253 and 285, *note.*) His son Hugh founded the Abbey of Woburne, in Bedfordshire, 10th of September, 1145, and was dead in 1165, when Walter gave the king 100 marks for the wardship of his brother's son and heir.—Rot. Pip.

parity of names and dates confusion has occurred on various points between it and that of the Buckingham branch, the eldest, as it would appear from the descent in it of the barony of Bolbec, and therefore undoubtedly the one to which we must trace Isabella, Countess of Oxford, as through her that barony came to the De Veres. That she was the *daughter* of Walter de Bolbec, and niece of Hugh, is clear enough from the charters and wills we have quoted, though Dugdale has increased the confusion by stating, inadvertently we presume, that she was *daughter* of Hugh and *sister* of Walter, in his Baronage, vol. i. p. 191. That she had a sister and coheir named Constance, married to Elias de Beauchamp, is also clear from the Final Concord of 1198, often alluded to in these pages. Dugdale records the match, but did not know the name of the lady, which has only reached us through the above-mentioned valuable record. That Constance was the younger sister we presume from the barony of Bolbec falling to Isabella's share; and therefore, if we have been tolerably correct in our calculation of the age of the latter, Constance was the wife of Elias de Beauchamp at the early age of thirteen or fourteen at the utmost.* But who was the mother of these two children? Certainly not the Margaret de Mont-

* We think it probable that she also died at an early age, for no issue is recorded of her, and in 1224 Isabella, as we shall see presently, speaks of herself as the heir (not one of the heirs) of Walter de Bolbec.

fitchet whom Dugdale has married in one place to Walter and in another to Hugh de Bolbec; for she was one of the sisters, and coheir of Richard de Montfitchet, living forty-second Henry III., 1258, and dead in the fifty-first of the same reign (Rot. Pip. *sub anno*); nor could she have been the wife of the Walter de Bolbec who founded the priory of Blancland, as stated in Banks, vol. i. p. 38, unless she survived her husband more than seventy years, as he was dead in 1185 or 1186. In the Fine Roll of the 9th of John, 1208, we find that a Margaret de Bolbec, who had been the wife of Walter de Bolbec, was remarried to Henry de Fontibus, and she is expressly stated to have been the daughter of Henry the son of Hervey.* As the father of Isabella must have been dead in 1191, second of Richard I., the date would correspond well enough with that of the remarriage of his widow in 1208; but here we are met by the evidence of the existence of an undoubted widow of our Walter de Bolbec previous to 1224. In that year, being the eighth of Henry III., Isabella, then widow of Robert de Vere, petitions against the abbot of Mendham (co. Bucks) to recover from him three carucates of land in Mendham, her right and heritage, on the plea that the said lands formed no part of the dowry of Egelina

* Or Henry Fitz-Hervey, which is not quite the same thing. "Margareta de Bolbec filia Henrici filii Hervei qui fuit uxor Walteri." *She* was probably the widow of the founder of Blancland.

de Courtenay, of the gift of her husband Walter de Bolbec, whose heir she (the said Isabella) is.* We must surely conclude from this document that Egelina, widow of Walter de Bolbec, was not the mother of his daughter Isabella, and that both she and her sister Constance were by a former wife, who could not long have survived the birth of her second child, as Walter must have remarried before 1191, in which year he was dead. His having no son would account for his re-entering the married state as soon as possible; but whether Egelina was a Courtenay by birth, or had taken to herself a second husband of that family before 1224, we have yet to discover: from the lapse of time, most probably the latter.† The production of a single charter, the information contained in a few lines of some overlooked record, may, before these pages meet the public eye, upset all these calculations; but they are, at any rate, founded

* "Isabella qui fuit uxor Roberti de Veer petit vsus abbatem de Mendham 3 caruc terr cum ptni in ib ut jus et hereditatem suam in quos id Abbas non het ingressum nisi per Egelinam de Courtenay qui non habuit inde nisi dotem ex dono Walteri de Bolbec viri sui cujus heres ipse est."—(MSS. Coll. Arm. Vinct. 13, p. 16.) The Abbey of Mendham was founded by Hugh, the brother of Walter, as a cell to Woburne, shortly after the foundation of the latter in 1145.

† A Reginald de Courtenay had custody of the daughter and lands of the other Walter de Bolbec, founder of the priory of Blancland, according to two entries in the Rot. de Dominabus, 1185. We have proof also that a Helewisia de Bolbec, grandmother of Constance de Bolbec, possessed the advowson of the Chapel of Fleet (*vide* p. 253); and in a pedigree in the Coll. of Arms (E. 13, p. 15), she is stated to have been "Hawes d. to the Lord Courtenay."

on official data, and are offered as the best solution we can suggest of a hitherto neglected genealogical puzzle.

CREVECŒUR.

Hamo de Crevecœur,* in consequence of his fortunate marriage with Maud d'Avranches, the second great lady of Folkestone, figures very conspicuously in all the pedigrees of his family, as well as those of several connected with it; but, as is too often the case in such matters, this important match is alone recorded, no mention being made of his first wife, or third wife who survived him,† and the issue by the first confounded with his children by the second. The four coheiresses of Maud d'Avranches—Agnes, Isolda, Eleanor, and Isabel—are incorrectly stated in our standard genealogical works to have succeeded to the large estates of their mother upon the death without issue of their brother Robert. This is an error. The Robert alluded to was their nephew, the son of their half-brother Hamo de Crevecœur, who was the only son of their father Hamo by his first wife, name and family unknown.‡ Hamo the younger

* The arms of this family were, Or a cross voided gules.

† His third wife was named Alice, by whom he had no issue.

‡ Hamo the elder was the son of a Robert de Crevecœur, son of Daniel, son of Robert Fitz Hamon de Crevecœur, who had two wives; by the first, named Isabella, he apparently had his son Adam, co-founder of the Priory of Ledes, co. Kent. By the second, Rosina, he had two sons, Elias and Daniel. The former, lord of the manor of Sarre, temp. Hen. I., had an only daughter and heir, Emma, of whom hereafter. Hamo, the husband of Maud d'Avranches, was the

died during the lifetime of his father, forty-seventh of Henry III. (1263), leaving the said Robert and two other sons—John and Thomas—by his wife Joan—his widow in 1263. Robert, by his wife Isolda (family yet undiscovered), had a son named William, who died unmarried, or at least without issue, two or three years before his father. Hamo the elder had also by his first wife a daughter, who married a son of Thomas de Camville under age in 1234. From a charter dated thirty-first of Edward I., A.D. 1303, we believe this lady's name was Isabella, and that of her husband Roger de Camville; and they and their issue, if they had any, would be the heirs of Robert de Crevecœur before his aunts of the half-blood. To these ladies, however, the four daughters of Maud d'Avranches, came, it is evident, the great property derived from Emma d'Arques and Maud de Bovil. The eldest, Agnes, married John de Sandwich, a member of one of the oldest and most influential families in this part of Kent, yet

grandson of Daniel, as above stated, and is also called the son of Robert de Crevecœur, heir of Walkeline de Maminot; but whether through his own parents or by his wife is not clear. Walkeline de Maminot married Julianna de Vere, daughter of Alberic, the Chamberlain, and widow of Hugh Bigod, Earl of Norfolk, but died without issue. He is said to have left one only sister and heir, who carried the honor of Maminot into the family of Say: but by his charter to St. Saviour's, Bermondsey, witnessed by his wife Julianna, it appears he had several brothers (one named Matthew) and sisters. "Matthei fratris mei et fratrum meorum, et sororum mearum."—(Harleian MSS., No. 4757.)

of which no pedigree exists, and but for this great prize in the lottery of marriage, might have escaped altogether the notice of our genealogists. Isolda married Nicholas de Lenham, Eleanor became the wife of Bertram de Criol, and Isabel espoused Henry de Gant.*

Of the descent from Agnes we shall speak in our notice of the mysterious family of Sandwich, and the issue of Eleanor will likewise be described in our examination of the pedigree of Criol, or Keriel. The heirs of Isolda appear to have been the Giffords of Burcs, or Bury, in Essex, and the property passed to the family of St. Nicholas, under which we shall revert to this line. Of Isabel no issue is recorded by either of her husbands, and her sisters or their issue, by an escheat of the eleventh of Edward I., No. 38, are said to be next of kin. It is an extent of the manor of Morton, which the jurors find Isabella de Gant held of the king; and they say that Eleanora, wife of Bertram de Kyriel, John de Lenham, and Juliana, daughter of John de Sandwico, are her nearest heirs; and they further say that Eleanora, sister of the said Isabella, is of age, and has been so now for thirty years past; and that the said

* MSS. Coll. Arm. Vincent. No. 61, and Segar, Baron. vol. i. 319. She is styled in a charter, "Domina de Mortona, quondam uxor Henrici de Gandivo" (MSS. Coll. Arm. R. 27, marked "Kent"), and died, as we shall see, seized of that manor, 11th of Edward I., A.D. 1284. Segar, in his MS. Baronage, Coll. Arms, says she re-married with William de Patteshull.

John de Lenham, son of Ysoude (Isolda), sister of the said Isabella, is of age, and has been for nine years past; and that the said Julianna, daughter of the said John de Sandwico, who was the son of Agnes, sister of the said Isabella, is under age, and of the age of eight years.

Should any general reader, "unsifted in such perilous matters," have ventured to follow us thus far, or accidentally cast his eye over the above dozen lines, he may be interested at finding how much curious and trustworthy material for the historian or biographer is to be picked out of these ancient inquisitions, the truth of which was sworn to by the twelve persons appointed to make the return. We learn by the document just quoted, that in 1284 Eleanor de Criol was the sole surviving sister, and upwards of fifty years of age; that John, son of Ysoude (Isolda), by her husband, Nicholas de Lenham, had attained the age of thirty; and that Julianna de Sandwich, grand-daughter of Agnes, the eldest sister, was a child of eight years old. Such facts enable us to correct the numerous inaccuracies which occur in pedigrees compiled from other genealogical works, untested by the investigation of similar official records. The attempt, by any other means, to reconcile the contradictions they involve, invariably leads to confusion worse confounded.

We shall find the Criols or Keriels in our path in almost every step of our present inquiry; but before we examine their pedigree, we will dispose of what

concerns us in another important family, of which they seem to have carried off the heiress, viz., that of

AUBERVILLE.

The name of Auberville or Osburvill, and occasionally latinized Albertvilla, occurs in Domesday, at the period of the compilation of which a William de Auberville held Berham, in Hertfordshire. A Roger de Auberville was also a contemporary of the Conqueror, and is presumed to have been the father of the aforesaid William. In the next century, however, during the reign of Henry I., there were co-existing a Hugh de Auberville and a John and a William de Osburville. In the thirty-first year of that monarch's reign, A.D. 1131, John and William were still living, but Hugh was dead, having left a widow named Wynanc;* and Turgisius d'Avranches gave the king three hundred silver marks, one gold mark, and one war-horse, for the lands and wife (widow) of Hugo de Albertvilla, and twenty-two marks annually to have his son in ward. This son was William de Auberville, Lord of Westenhanger,† who married Matilda, daughter and co-heir of Ranulph de Glanville, by his wife, Berta de Valoignes. In his charter to Langdon Priory, he mentions his wife Matilda, his son William,

* Named in the foundation charter of Langdon Priory, 1192, as one of those to be prayed for.—Mon. Ang. vol. ii. p. 622.

† Hugh had also a daughter named Alice, married to Fulk de Lizures, and living, his widow, 1185, aged fifty and upwards.—Rot. de Dominabus.

and his daughter Emma. He died before the tenth of John, A.D. 1208.

His son and heir was Hugh de Auberville, who married a lady named Johanna or Joan, and died fifteenth of John, 1213, when William Brewer gave the king one thousand marks to have the whole of his land, and the marriage of his heirs and of Johanna, who was the wife of the said Hugh. His successor was his son Sir William de Auberville, who died twenty-ninth of Henry III., 1245,* leaving a widow, named Isabella (who in 1249 married Reginald de Evermuth), and an only daughter, Joan, who married, first, in 1247, Sir Henry de Sandwich, of Dentdelion, Thanet; and secondly, before 1254, Nicholas de Criol. There is no record of any issue by her first husband; but the descent from her second husband is most important to our history, and will be pursued in our examination of the pedigree of

CRIOL OR KERIEL.

This family, which took its name from Creuil or

* In that year he made a grant to Christ Church, Canterbury, of 20s., "de libr̄o redditu de Domic̄o meo de Ostringehanges et Beruvye" etc. . . . . The witnesses being Dn° Roberto de Auberville, Dn° Symone de Sandwyco, Dn° Simone de Hauth militibus, John Checke, Will^m Brewere.—(MS. Coll. Arms, R. 27, C. 1989, 1993.) The seal attached to a deed of this William exhibits his arms,—Parted per fess dancette two annulets in chief and one in base. We are inclined to believe that this coat is composed of that of Glanville and the original arms of Auberville, or that it is simply the coat of Glanville differenced by the annulets. In the coat of Sandwich, derived, as we believe, from a collateral source, the indented chief is frequently so deep that it appears as if the shield were parted per fess.

Criel, a town in the department of the Oise, and now a station on the railway not far from Paris, was of eminence in England shortly after the Conquest, and before the close of the twelfth century held considerable possessions in the county of Kent.* John de Criol, in 1194, gave the church of Sarre, or Serres, in the parish of St. Nicholas, Thanet, to the Priory of Ledes, and a daughter of this house, named Cecilia, appears to have been the wife of Simon d'Avranches, in the reign of Richard I., as we have already mentioned, p. 262.

John de Criol had by his wife Margery four sons,—Bertram, who became Sheriff of Kent, Simon, William, and Nicholas. The latter married Margery de Clifford, by whom he left three daughters and coheirs. The elder brother Bertram married a lady named Emma,† and had by her three sons,—John, Simon,

* It is important to remark that Elias de Crevecœur, living 1145, and great-uncle of Hamo de Crevecœur, was lord of the manor and patron of the church of Sarre, the advowson of which he gave to the Canons of Ledes Priory, co. Kent, in the reign of Henry I. (Text. Roffensis, vol. i. p. 598), and left an only daughter and heir, named Emma, living 1207, from whom, by marriage or otherwise, this property must have passed to the Criols.

† Supposed to be the above-named Emma de Crevecœur; but not only do the dates render this improbable, but the advowson of the church of Sarre we find had been previously claimed by Bertram's father in 1194. In the MS. Coll. Arms, marked R. 27, are copies of three charters. 1. That of Emma de Creuquer, confirming a grant of Philip Utdevers to the canons of Begeham; 2. that of Robert de Creuquer, confirming the donation of Emma; and 3. that of Nicholas de Kenet, confirming the gift of Emma de Creuquer, "*mater mea.*"

and Nicholas.* The eldest, John, married in 1233 Matilda de Estwell, his father Bertram in that year paying 40 marks to the king for the permission. John de Criol died forty-eighth Henry III., 1263, leaving by his wife Matilda four sons,—Bertram, Ralph, Edmund, and Alured.† Bertram married Eleanor, one of the four daughters and coheiresses of Hamo de Crevecœur and Maud d'Avranches, as noticed at p. 288. He died second of Edward I., leaving by Eleanor two sons, John and Bertram, and one daughter named Joan. John married a lady named Eleonora, and Bertram one named Petronilla. The families of both ladies are at present unknown; neither, however, had any issue, and consequently, on the death of Bertram (who survived his brother) in the thirty-fourth year of Edward I., his sister Joan, then twenty-eight years of age, and the wife of Sir Richard de Rokesly, was found to be the next heir. This Joan, by her husband Sir Richard, had two daughters and coheirs, Johanna and Agnes. The former married Sir William Baude, and the latter, first, Walter de Patteshull, and secondly Thomas de Poynings. We must now return to Nicholas, the younger son of Bertram de Criol by his wife Emma. This was the Nicholas who, as we have stated, p. 291, married Joan, daughter

* Inquis. post Mort.

† This Alured appears to have had a daughter named Isabel, and we are inclined to believe that she married William de Chilton (*vide* p. 85), as Chilton passed, after William's death, to the heirs of Criol.

and heir of Sir William de Auberville, and widow of Sir Henry de Sandwich. He appears to have survived her and married a second wife named Margery, family unknown, by whom he had no issue. By his first wife Joan, however, he had at least one son, named after him Nicholas, living thirtieth Edward I., and who married Margaret, daughter of Sir John Peche. By her he had a son, also named Nicholas, who died third of Edward III., A.D. 1320, leaving by his wife Rosia (who re-married John Bertram) a son John, who died in 1377, leaving by his wife Lettice, who survived him, two sons, Nicholas and John, and a daughter Ida, who married Sir John Brockhull. John, the youngest son, married Alice, daughter and coheir of John de Botetourt, and dying sixth of Henry VI., left an only daughter Joan, wife of John Wykes, of Sarre Court and St. Lawrence, Isle of Thanet. Nicholas, his elder brother, survived his father Sir John but four years, dying third of Richard II., 1380. His wife was Elizabeth, daughter of Maud Trussell, who survived him,* and by whom he had William, son and heir, aged thirty at the time of his father's death. William died first of Henry V., 1412, leaving two sons, Thomas and John. Thomas Keriel, the eldest (for so the name had now become written), was found at that period to be eighteen years of age, and heir to his grandmother Elizabeth, daughter

* Inq. post mortem, seventh of Henry V., 1419.

of Maud Trussell. He was made a Knight of the Garter by King Henry VI., but was never installed, and was beheaded in 1461 by order of Edward IV., having been taken prisoner in the fatal battle of St. Albans. He was twice married: by his first wife, whose name is yet unknown, he had an only daughter named Alice, who married Sir John Fogg, of Repton. His second wife was Cecilia, daughter of John Storton, of Preston and Birmpton, co. Kent, and who re-married with John Hill. By her he had no children. John Keriel, his younger brother, married, first, Jane, daughter of Roger Clitherow, whose brass we have described at page 208, and secondly Elizabeth Chiche, who survived him, and married two other husbands, but had no issue by any. Here, then, we arrive at the extinction of this male line of Criol, and it is not within the scope of this inquiry to follow the descent of the various other branches.*

* The arms of Criol or Keriel are generally blazoned, Or two chevrons and a canton gules; but, in a Roll of Henry III.'s time, the canton is called a quarter. "Bertram de Criol, d'or ove deux chevrons et ung quartier de goules;" and in a Roll of the same date copied by Nicholas Charles, Lancaster Herald, the canton, if a canton it be, is certainly as large as a quarter. A singular variety of the arms of Criol is to be found in the copy of an ancient Roll of Arms in the Heralds' College.—(Vincent, 165.) It is attributed to "Nicholas de Cryel," and displays party per chevron (or, from the curving of the lines it may be intended for what Heralds call Point in Point,) *or* and *gules*, three annulets, counterchanged. The original Roll we should date about the close of the reign of Edward I.; and the coat appearing to be founded on that of Auberville induces us to imagine

We must now attack one of the most difficult subjects we have to deal with,—the pedigree of the family of

SANDWICH.

Mr. Boys, in his valuable Collections for the history of the place, from whence they derived their name, gives up the task in despair, and contents himself with enumerating the instances in which a Henry, a Simon, a John, or a Ralph de Sandwich, is met with in charter or chronicle, without any attempt to identify the individual. The great match of John de Sandwich with Agnes de Crevecœur, Lady of Folkstone, has secured for him and his immediate descendants a most prominent position in all genealogical histories, baronages, peerages, &c.; but who was his father or mother? Had he any brothers or sisters? With what other families of eminence was he connected by intermarriage or descent? On these points all are silent; and for the little information we are now enabled to lay before our readers we are mainly indebted to William Courthope, Esq., Somerset Herald, whose familiarity with our ancient records has made his kind assistance of the greatest value to us. The origin of the family, however, is still involved in mist. The earliest members of it do not appear to have been called "de Sandwich,"* and the similarity of the

it is that of Nicholas de Criol, son and heir of Joan de Auberville.—*Vide* p. 291.

* We are told by Tanner, Notit. Monast., that Thomas *Crumpthorne* and *Elizabeth* his wife, who founded St. Bartholomew's Hospi-

armorial bearings accorded to that name, with those of the Butlers, descended from Hervey Walter (viz. Or, a chief indented azure), point to a common origin, a marriage with an heiress or an important infeudation.* Herbert Walter, one of the sons of Hervey, and brother of Theobald Walter, the immediate ancestor of the Butlers of Ireland and Marquises of Ormond, was Archbishop of Canterbury, and must, therefore, have possessed the greatest power and influence in this Corner of Kent. We know that a branch of these Butlers descended from a Thomas Pincerna, held land in Fleet of the Archbishop, from which circumstance it obtained the name of Butler's Fleet;

tal in 1190, were of the family of Sandwich, and Mr. Boys quotes a MS. in his possession to the same effect :—"Anno secundo Richardi primi Thomas *Crawthorne* and *Maude* his wife, of the worshipful familie of the Sandwiches, first founded the Hospital of St. Bartholomew." William Burcharde, one of the early benefactors, was afterwards in possession "de tenemento de Crawthorne," and in the Costumal of Sandwich, the priests of St. Bartholomew's Hospital are required to pray for the souls of Bertine de Crawthorne, William Bourcharde, Sir Henry de Sandwich, and all their ancestors and posterity. Can Crumpthorne and Crawthorne be corruptions of Crookthorne, Curvaspina, and Courbespine, the well-known name of an ancient Norman family, and ancestors of the Maminots? A Sir Ralph de Courbespine was witness with William de Arches to a charter of William the Conqueror.

* The arms of the family of Crauthorne, lords of Crauthorne, in Langport hundred, corroborate this statement, as they are the same as those of Butler and Sandwich, differenced by a label of five points *gules*. Thomas de Crauthorne, in the reign of Edward I., was a benefactor to the Carmelites of Sandwich, and was buried in St. Peter's Church there.—Hasted, vol. iii. p. 506.

and also that the great family of Vere continued for several generations to hold land in the same locality under that of Sandwich. Philipot has an unsupported pedigree beginning with the names of Manwin and of Salomon of Sandwich, the son of Manwin ;* but it is not till the reign of Henry III. that we get any reliable information respecting the family. In a grant to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Sandwich, by William Burcharde, we meet with the names of Henry de Sandwich,† and of his son Simon,—"Domino Henrico de Sandwich, Domino Simone filio suo." His son Robert is also a witness to a charter of Henry de Rubergh. Henry de Sandwich names his wife Lucia in a deed without date, of the Abbey of St. Radegund.‡ Sir

* He appears to have found these names in a deed without date in the Priory Book of St. Martin's at Dover, by which Salomon of Sandwich, the son of Manwin, makes a donation to the priory of the value of 6s. 8d. per annum.—Church Notes, Harl. MS., No. 3917, p. 36.

† Sir Henry de Sandwich had a grant of the lands of Robert de Curcy, co. Kent, 30th September, 1204. He was remitted from knight's service 27th April, 1205, and 6th of June following had by writ seizin of the manor of Bilsington, co. Kent. He was bailiff of Sandwich A.D. 1213–1223, was seized of Dane Court, in Thanet, 1230, which had previously belonged to Sir Ralph de Sandwich, and had license to erect an oratory there in that year ; held Ham, in the same county, as heir of Ralph Fitz Bernard ; endowed the hospital of St. Bartholomew, Sandwich, about the year 1244, with the license of Pope Innocent III. in the second year of his pontificate, and was buried in the chapel there, where his effigy, in the military habit of the period, is still to be seen in good preservation.

‡ "Hen. de Sandwyco d. &c., 10s., A.R. apud Sandwic, &c. salute anime mee et Lucij uxoris mee, etc." The witnesses are Dno.

Simon de Sandwich first married a lady named Juliana, and it is strange that her family should not have been recorded, as it is evident she must have been a person of considerable importance, the name of Juliana being cherished by her descendants, and much wealth apparently derived from her. He had two brothers, Robert and John; the latter was the fortunate husband of the great coheiress Agnes de Crevecœur, sometimes called Agnes d'Avranches, as she carried off the whole barony of Folkestone, which had come down in that family from Maud de Monville, wife of the first Rualon d'Avranches. By this Agnes, John de Sandwich had two sons, John and Nicholas. John, afterwards Sir John de Sandwich, died eleventh of Edward I., 1282, leaving by his wife Alice,* who re-married with Sir Henry de Panebrig, an infant daughter, aged eight at that period, and named Juliana, who became the wife, first, of Sir Richard Weylond, from whom she was divorced in 1302, and secondly, of Sir John de Segrave. No mention is made of issue by her first husband; but she is said to have had an only daughter by her second husband, named Maria, who died, aged fifteen, unmarried, the twenty-third of Edward III. This, however, is wholly incorrect; Maria was her grand-daughter,

Roger de Betleshanger, Osbo & Hamo fribus suis, *Augero* et *Omero* de Sandwich.—MS. Coll. Arms, R. 27, "Kent."

* She was party to an agreement with her brother-in-law, touching her dower (thirty-fourth Edward I., 1305) out of land at Woodensborough, co. Kent.

the only child of her son John de Segrave,* and on the death of this Maria, who was only fifteen days old at the death of her father, and lived altogether but five months,† Nicholas de Sandwich, son of Nicholas, brother of Sir John de Sandwich, was found to be her cousin and next heir, and at that time, 1349, to be fifty years of age. He was lord of the manor and rector of Otham, co. Kent, and also rector of St. Michael's, Crooked Lane, London; and in him this line of the family expired.‡

We must now return to Simon and Juliana. They appear to have had issue three sons, Henry, John, and Ralph, and one daughter, Juliana, married to Fulk Peyforer. Henry de Sandwich was the first husband of Joan, daughter and heir of Sir William de Auberville, and did homage for his lands which

* Aged twenty-nine at the death of his father in 1343, and whom he only survived six years, dying on Wednesday, 8th of July, 1349.—(P. M. Inquis., 22nd August, twenty-third Edward III., 1349.) Julianna had also, by Sir John Segrave, a daughter Elizabeth, married first to Richard Foliot, Esq., and secondly (fifth of Edward III., 1331) to Sir Roger de Northwode. She died without issue at Canterbury, 11th Dec., 1335, and was buried at Sheppey.

† She died on Tuesday after the feast of St. Bartholomew, A.D. 1349.—P. M. Inquis., taken at Lyminge, Dec. 16th, 1349, twenty-third of Edward III.

‡ He died in 1370, having in 1358 enfeoffed Edward de Stabelgate into his manors of Bilsington, Poldre, Eastry, and rent charge on Folkestone. His arms in Otham church had a mullet in chief for difference.—(Petre le Neve's Ch. Notes, 1610-24.) He had a younger brother John, dead before 1357, who was the first husband of Benedict, daughter of John de Shelving, who remarried, 1358, Sir Edmond Haute.

he held of the king *in capite*, in right of his wife, the aforesaid Joan, thirty-second of Henry III., 1248. He was of Dent-de-Lion, now called Dandelion, in the Isle of Thanet, and seems to have had no issue by Joan d'Auberville, as Dent-de-Lion eventually passed, by marriage with his niece Juliana to William de Leybourne, who died seized of it third of Edward II., 1310. This Juliana is said by some genealogists to have been daughter of his sister Juliana by Fulk Peyforer, and heir to her *uncle* Sir Ralph. Others make her daughter as well as heir to Ralph, who was probably heir to his brother Henry. Sir Ralph was certainly married, for he was one of the Kentish knights summoned with his wife, "consortis suæ," to attend the coronation of Edward II. He appears to have been a person in great estimation, as we find him appointed to various high offices during the reigns of Henry III. and Edward I. He was keeper of the king's wardrobe, and as such received the great seal at Gloucester forty-ninth of Henry III. (1264-5); had the custody of the bishopric of London, first Edward I., 1272, and of the archbishopric of Canterbury, sixth of the same reign, 1277. The same year he was made constable and warden of Dover Castle; witnessed the homage of Alexander, king of Scots, 29th September, 1278; was one of the council deputed to hear the complaints of the barons of Sandwich 1280; a member of the council of Prince Edward in 1297; had the custody of the Tower of London in 1306; and was summoned, as we have

already stated, to attend with his wife the coronation of Edward II., 8th February, 1308; and yet we are ignorant who was that wife, or whether she was the mother of his child, for such we certainly believe Juliana to have been, as on her marriage with William de Leybourne she had settled on her Dane Court, of which we find Sir Ralph, his brother Henry, his father and grandfather, were each in turn seized.* She survived her husband, who died before March 3rd, 1310, and by whom she had two children —Idonea, married to Geoffrey de Say, and Thomas de Leyburn, who died during his father's lifetime, leaving an only daughter, an infant of three years of age, Julianna de Leyburn, that great heiress of whom we have already so often spoken, and whose line failed in 1391, on the death of her great-grandson, John de Hastings, Earl of Pembroke, when all her issue became extinct (*vide* p. 76). Of John, the third son of Sir Simon, all we know at present is, that certain lands in Ripple, Ham, and Walling were settled on him in remainder by his father in 1255.†

* The point is all but settled by the fact recorded in the Patent Roll of the 49th Henry III., M. 4, that the manor of Preston, which had belonged to Simon de Sandwich (the father of Sir Ralph), and which had been seized by the King in consequence of the said Simon being "inimicus Regis," is directed to be given to Juliana de Leybourne, to whom it would come "de jure hereditatis."

† A John de Sandwich, *armiger*, is entered amongst the persons commemorated in the Leiger Book of Davington Priory, and immediately after his name we read "Beatrice de Sancwhich."

Here we are at fault, and fear even to venture a guess respecting the origin of another branch of this great family, from which the Harfleets of Checquer and Molland were immediately descended. There was undoubtedly a Nicholas,* son of Thomas de Sandwich, whose sister Margaret married Henry de Goshall, and whose daughter and heiress Anne was the wife of John Septvans, the progenitor of the Harfleets, according to the pedigree in Philipot's MS., before mentioned. Thomas, in that pedigree, is set down as the son of a William de Sandwich, who, in one account, is made the husband of a daughter of John Lord Cobham, and in another, of *Eleanor*, daughter of Hamo de Crevecœur,† the

* There was a Nicholas de Sandwich, whose daughter Mabel is said to have married William, the last male heir of Avranches, before 1236. Another Nicholas de Sandwich was prior of Christchurch, Canterbury, elected November 1, 1244; resigned, 1258; precentor, 1262. A third Nicholas was a proprietor of lands in the hundred of Cornhil and Eastry, seventeenth of Edward I., and died 1289.—(Epitaph in Canterbury Cathedral.) A fourth Sir Nicholas, *son of Sir Simon* de Sandwich, Lord Warden, *temp.* Richard II., was a great benefactor of St. Bartholomew's Hospital at Sandwich, and is buried in the chapel there.—("MS. penes G. B.," quoted by Boys in his Collections.) His arms are said to have been those of the Cinque Ports, impaling a lion rampant guardant.

† This at first sight seems to be a blunder arising from some confusion respecting the match of John de Sandwich with Agnes, daughter of Hamo de Crevecœur, and that of Eleanor, her sister, with Bertram de Criol; but *non constat* that there might not have been an Eleanor, daughter of another Hamo de Crevecœur, one of the branch of Hamo de Blen. The name of Hamo is exceedingly common in the family of Crevecœur, and we find a Hamo de Sandwich who was prebendary

said William being the son of Salomon, the son of Manwin, as we have already stated. No trace of any of these names occurs in any of the numerous official records and charters from which we have gleaned the information just laid before our readers. Boys is perfectly silent respecting them, and Philipot himself appears to have been doubtful of his information, and quotes no authorities, though we have seen from whence he obtained the names of Manwin and Salomon. To Thomas he gives for a wife a nameless daughter of Thomas de Helles, of Woodensborough, and to his son Nicholas an anonymous daughter of . . . . Hess, of Great Mongeam, distinguishing that family by a shield of arms, displaying *argent* a fess *sable* (charged with a mullet *or*) between three lions rampant *gules*. This coat, without the mullet, is to be found in a copy of a Roll of Arms of the 14th century.—(Vincent, 165, Coll. Arms.) And a Robert de Hes is witness to a charter of Matilda de Auberville in company with Henry de Sandwich, Robert de Gosehall, William de Bockland, and Andrew and Wibert de Sandwich.—(Harleian Charters, 45 E. 33.) Now, first, as to William. Thoroton, in his History of Nottinghamshire, men-

of Hereford in 1318.—(Willis's Cathedrals.) The match with a daughter of John Lord Cobham could not so well have escaped notice in some of the Cobham pedigrees; but there is one curious piece of evidence in support of it, viz. the arms of Sandwich dimidiated with those of Cobham, formerly in a window of Cobham church, Kent. —Philipot, MS. Coll. Arms, Pe. I. p. 94.

tions a William de Sandwich, who had a brother John and a sister Idonea; but they were the children of a John de Sandwich living in 1312.* Boys has also discovered in the Register Berthona, Archives of Canterbury, a William, brother of Henry; but neither of the Henries of whom we have found positive evidence was the son of "Salomon, the son of Manwin." Next, as to Thomas. Robinson, in his "Gavelkind," tells us of a Thomas, son of Thomas de Sandwich, who had the custody of William and Thomas, sons of John de Helles, sixth of Edward II., as "next of kin to whom their inheritance could not come." Philipot, we have observed, gives to Thomas de Sandwich the daughter of a Thomas de Helles for a wife. Supposing her to have been a sister of John, father of the wards William and Thomas de Helles, her son Thomas de Sandwich would have been their cousin, to whom, for some reason, their inheritance could not come. It is clear, at any rate, that the two families were connected by ties of blood; and by a Plea Roll of the thirty-third of Edward I. we find that a Thomas de Sandwich, living about the

* It is a fine levied in 1312 between John de Sandwich and Margaret, daughter of Walter de Lundy, *querentes*, and Nicholas de Haliwell, *deforciant*, of three messuages, &c.; whereby they were settled on the said John and Margaret for life, afterwards on Idonea, the daughter of John and the heir of her body; remainder to John, his brother, and his heirs; remainder to John de Sandwich and his heirs, William being brother of Idonea, and John the son of John.

Vide also MS. Coll. Arms, R. 27, where the witnesses to a charter, C. 750, are "Henr. de Sandwico, Will. fre suo."

same period, had a wife named Johanna and a son named John.* That he was the son of a Thomas, and may therefore be identified as the guardian of the children of John de Helles, is fairly deducible from the two following extracts from the Fine Rolls. The first, *circa* third of Edward I., shows us Thomas de Sandwich, plaintiff, and Robert de Crevecœur and Isolda his wife, defendants, in a suit respecting lands in Fleet by Sandwich, the right of said Thomas and *Johanna* his wife, and the heirs of the said Thomas; while in an earlier one of the forty-fifth of Henry III., Andrew de Molland, Matilda his wife, and Idonea de la Forde, are plaintiffs, and Thomas de Sandwich, defendant, respecting two parts of a messuage, &c., in Ash, recognized by said Andrew and others as the right of the said Thomas. Still later we find another Thomas de Sandwich, of Essex, who had a wife named Elena; but still we are unable to identify him with Thomas, the son of William, and the father of Sir Nicholas, or even to

* "Inter Thomam de Sandwico Joh̄a uxorem ejus, et Joh̄i filius eorum de terris in Lyme." *Vide* also a Final Concord of thirty-second Edward I. between Thomas de Sandwich and Henry Perot and Johanna his wife; from which it may be inferred that Johanna Perot was the daughter of Thomas de Sandwich.—(Lansdowne MS., Brit. Mus. 268.) It is also worth observing that in the twenty-eighth of Henry III. there was a Final Concord between one of this same family of Perot, named Alan, and Simon Fitz Henry de Sandwich, respecting land in Polre, the right of the said Alan (who was, probably, father of the Henry Perot above named), showing an earlier connection between the two families.—Lansdowne MS., Brit. Mus. No. 269, p. 26.

guess how the descendants of Manwin and Salomon are connected with those of Henry and Simon, or Ralph. We have shown the extinction of the latter line in the persons of the two Juliannas and the Rector of Otham. The male issue of the former failed nearly about the same period when Anne, sole daughter and heiress of Sir Nicholas de Sandwich, married one of the equally important, but little better known family of—

SEPTVANS, *alias* HARFLEET.*

This remarkable name is suggested by Mr. Mark Anthony Lower to be derived from a place called Septvas or Septvents (*i.e.* Seven winds) in Normandy; but whatever may have been its origin, the corruptions of it exceed in number those of any other patronymic that we remember. In Latin, it is generally rendered Septemvannis, and sometimes Septemvallibus; but in Norman French, or English, we find it written Setuans, Septvans, Septvaus, Seavaus, Sevanz, Sephans, Sevance, Sevaunces, Senantz, Cennants, and even Setwentz and Setwetz!

* We have purposely throughout this volume, except when quoting literally ancient documents or other writers, spelt this name Har*fleet*, in conformity with that of the manor of Fleet, from which we believe it to have been taken, as asserted in one instance by Philipot, apparently from the information of the family, who, though they continued nearly to the end of the seventeenth century to write both Flete and Harflete, occasionally in some of the later instances, signed themselves Har*fleete*, in accordance with the progress of orthography.

The name does not occur in Domesday, and the probability is that the earliest bearer of it in this country was the Robert de Septvans, husband of Emma, coheir of William Fitz Helte.* She is described as Emma de Septvans, of Aldington, which estate we find descend in the family, and where it would appear they were first seated in England.

Emma had two sisters, Sibilla and Alicia. The former married Hugo de Ceriton,† and the latter Ansfrid de Caney. The husband of Emma was dead in 1180, and in 1185 his son Robert was found to be twelve years of age.‡ An Isilia de Septvans appears as a benefactress to St. John's Abbey, Colchester,§ in the 12th century, who might have been the wife of the second Robert, who possessed property in Essex,

* William Fitz Helte died shortly before twenty-sixth Henry II., 1180; for, by the Pipe Roll of that year, we find that William de Ceriton and Ansfrid de Cani and Emma de Septuans rendered account of 100 marks to have the land of William Fitz Helte.

† She appears to have remarried, before 1181, John Monaco, as in that year seventy shillings was paid in to the Treasury "de Johanna Monaco et Emma de Setuans," who in the last line of the entry is described as "uxorem ejus." In the same year William de Haga paid five marks for a jury of matrons to ascertain whether Emma de Septuans had borne a child (to her first husband); the object being to prove the heirship. In 1185 the sheriff renders an account of 71s. and 5d. for Aldinton, the land of Emma de Setvans, and for 60s. for Maplescamps, also her land; and in 1187 the sheriff makes his return for Aldinton, the heir to which is in the custody of the king.

‡ Rot. de Dominabus. Emma was dead in 1187, and in the Plea Roll of the 9th of John, 1216, she is called "avia Rob't de Septemvannis."—Abbrev. of Pleas, p. 57.

§ Morant's Essex.

two persons named Malger and Richard, receiving his rents for him during his minority, in Wigeberg, in that county.* In 1199 (tenth Richard I.) a suit was brought against Robert de Septvans, then of full age, and Malger de Wigeberg, by Alicia, wife of Robert de Newlond, and daughter of Avicia, the wife of Swainus or Swain, to recover 1½ hide of land in Wigeberg, now held by the said Malger. By the pleadings in this suit we learn that Alicia had an elder sister, in right of whom it would seem the defendants resisted the claim. Her name is not given, nor any affinity to the defendants implied; but she must have been some near connection of one or both of them. Robert the second was dead in or before the ninth of John, 1216, and was succeeded in his estates by his son, a third Robert, of whom Emma de Septvans is in that year described as the grandmother.† There is another family named in connection with Robert de Septvans the second, bearing the singular appellation of Ut Devers. In 1205, sixth of John, there was a Final Concord between Philippa de Ut Devers, petitioner, and Robert de Septvans, tenant, respecting an acre of land in Audington (Aldington), the right of the said Robert

* "Robertus filius Roberti de Setvans est in custodia Domini Regis et per eum in custodia Vicecomitis de Essex et est xij annorum. Terra sua de Wigeberga fuit in manu Domini Regis elapso 1 anno ab Epiphania. Malger et Ricardus receperunt inde firmam ij terminorum. . . . . Postea commisit Vicecomes terram illam Rogero Preposito pro xi libras, &c."—Rot. de Dominabus.

† Rot. Cur. Reg. *sub anno.*

and his heirs,* and in the sixth Henry III., another between *Philip* de Utdevers (the son, it may be, of Philippa) and the third "Robert de Sevans," for apparently the same land in Aldington to which he had then succeeded.† There is also a charter of this Philip Utdevers, who, with the consent of his wife, and Osbert, his son, "remits 10s. to the canons of Begeham, which they owed for the land of Blachinden."‡ In the eighth of Henry III., Hugh de Scerpton is the petitioner and Robert de Septuans the defendant in a Final Concord respecting half the manor of Aldington, the right of Robert and his heirs.

We know of nothing more that can at present throw any further light upon this third Robert save that he died thirty-third of Henry III., A.D. 1249, seized of Aldington, Whelmstone, and Milton, was buried at Lid, and left a widow Matilda, who was living in 1253;§ and a son Robert, aged nearly forty at the time of the inquisition, to succeed him. This

* Lansdowne MS., Brit. Mus. No. 269.

† Lansdowne MS., No. 269.

‡ MS. Coll. Arms, R. 27, Kent. Finis Levatt. in Cur. Reg.

§ In the 15th of Henry III., 1238, there was a Final Concord between Isabella de Septvans and Mabilia, daughter of Gilbert de St. Ledger, respecting fifteen acres of land at Lidd and Bromhill, held by Stephen de Ospringe, the right of the said Isabella. Who was she?—one of the St. Ledgers who had married a Septvans? The widow of the second Robert, or the wife of his grandson, the fourth Robert? who would have been about five-and-twenty at that period, and certainly had a wife named Isabella.

Robert, the fourth of the name at present known, survived his father only four years, dying thirty-seventh of Henry III., 1253, when it was found that he had a wife Isabella, and a son Robert, three years of age.

By the pedigrees, it would appear that he also left a daughter named Joan, who married John Lord Cobham; whether older than her brother Robert or not we have no means at present of ascertaining; we are also in the dark as to the families of the two widows Matilda and Isabella, co-existing in 1253. Segar, in the MS. copy of his Baronage, recently purchased by the College of Arms, has a note to the effect that Joan Septvans, Lady Cobham, was coheir of Rose, *widow* of Sir Stephen Penchester.* Now Rose was the daughter of Hawisia de Beseville, living in 1270, and was not the widow but the first wife of Stephen de Penchester, who married secondly Margaret, daughter of John de Burgh, who survived him and married John de Oreby. Rose had a sister Johanna de Beseville, also living 1270; and Stephen de Penchester had a daughter named Joan, aged forty, second of Edward II., 1309,† and the wife of Henry Cobham at Rensdale.

* Banks also calls her "coheir to Rose, the *widow* of Stephen de Pencestre" (vol. ii. p. 104).

† Date of escheat of "Margaret uxor Stephen de Pencester."—(Philipot, 4, P.E.) But query, had not Stephen a third wife; for we find in the same MS., under the 18th of Edward II., Johanna uxor Stephen de Pencester.

By that calculation she must have been born in 1269, and therefore the daughter of Rose, and not of Margaret, as asserted; but even correcting these two material errors does not enlighten us as to the connection of Joan Septvans with Rose de Penchester.

Let us proceed a little further.

Sir Robert de Septvans, fifth in succession, born, as we have found, in 1250, died thirty-fourth Edward I., 1306, and was buried at Chartham. Of this Robert there are many notices in the parliamentary writs,* but nothing to throw light on his genealogy. Philipot in his pedigree, marked Annulet, p. 37, marries him to a daughter of —— Aldon. It is quite possible that he might have married one of that family; but a curious piece of information is supplied by a Fine Roll of the twenty-second of Edward I., 1294. We find therein that he had married Johanna, widow of Richard le Wallies, in contempt of the king's authority.

Who this Johanna was by birth, however, we have not been able to ascertain, nor whether she was the mother of his children. His son William was found to be "twenty-five years of age and upwards" at his father's death in 1306. He must, therefore, have been born at the latest in 1281; but we do not know when the marriage of Robert with Johanna took place, but only that she was dead in 1294.

We are half inclined to believe that a mistake of

* He was knight of the shire, returned for Parliament 18th and 30th of Edward I., 1290 and 1302.

one generation has been made respecting Joan Lady Cobham, that the last two Roberts de Septvans have been confounded, and that the wife of John Lord Cobham was daughter, not of the third, but of the fourth Robert by this Johanna le Wallies. Whether or not, *she* was Johanna, sister of Rose de Beseville, unmarried in 1270, which would allow twenty-four years for her to become wife and widow of Richard le Wallies, wife of Robert de Septvans, and mother at least of Joan Lady Cobham, can only be ascertained by further inquiry. Philipot, who asserts that his pedigree was compiled from family evidences, was clearly ignorant of this match. If, as he sets down, the last Sir Robert de Septvans married a daughter of Aldon, either before his marriage with Johanna le Wallies, or after her death in 1294, she was most probably the daughter of Elias de Aldon, by Christiana de Heringode, and sister of Sir Thomas de Aldon, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Geoffrey de Say; but the pedigrees of Aldon are silent, as usual, respecting daughters, and we have, therefore, no baptismal name to assist our speculations.

To return to facts. Sir Robert, born in 1250, married one of the aforesaid ladies some time previous to 1281, in which year at the latest, we find his eldest son, William, was born, being twenty-five and upwards at his father's death in 1306, and already married to Elizabeth, daughter of —— Pimpe, of Pimpe's Court, Esq., in the county of Kent.

Immediately upon his succession to his father's estates he appears to have had a settlement with a Robert de Septvans respecting a messuage and two carrucates of land in Lidd and Bromhill. The same Robert de Septvans, we presume, holding two knights' fees in Wigberg, county of Essex, some nine years later.

What relation this Robert was to William does not appear. He may have been his brother; but not being so designated, it is more probable that he was a cousin. Down to this point we have no collateral descent recorded, or any trace of one; yet it is not likely that the four Roberts should all have been only sons.*

Sir William Septvans, of Milton, for he was knighted, and is so described, was sheriff of Kent 14th and 15th of Edward II., and died 16th of same reign, 1323, leaving by his wife, Elizabeth Pimpe, William, his eldest son, aged twenty-two and upwards at that date, John, Symkin or Simon, and Robert. No daughters are mentioned. John married a daughter of Roger Manston, of Manston Court, Isle of Thanet, and had issue, of which anon. Robert was priest and parson of St. Peter's, Sandwich, where he was buried. Of Simon, or Symkin, as he is indifferently called, we have no information we can rely

* In the old Roll of Arms, temp. Edward I., already quoted, are the arms of a Robert de Septvans,—Azure, 3 fans, or, differenced by nine cross crosslets of the second, 3, 3, 2, and 1; evidently that of a younger brother or collateral.

upon. We will return to him presently; but must first clear off the descent from his brothers, Sir William and John.

William (second of that name)* is set down in some of Philipot's Pedigrees as the husband of Maud, sole daughter and heir of Sir Theobald de Twitham, Lord of Twitham in Ash; but no actual authority is quoted, or can be found, for this marriage. On the other hand, we have official documents, showing that he left a widow named Elizabeth, to whom his son William was next heir. In the first place, there is the post-mortem inquisition, showing that William Septemvannis died 25th of Edward III., 1351, and that William, his son, was at that time aged five years and upwards. We have next the inquisition taken at Canterbury on the Saturday next after the Feast of St. Andrew, 30th of Edward III., 1356,—"Post mortem Eliz. de Seyvance," in which the jurors say that she held for life the manor of Milton; that she died on Wednesday, the Feast of the Apostles St. Simon and St. Jude, in the year aforesaid; that William, son of William de Seyvance, is next heir of the said Elizabeth, and that the said heir is

* It does not appear that he was ever knighted, though set down as "*Sir* William" in the Pedigrees. He was summoned as "Wilhelmus de Setzvans, '*man at arms*,' to attend the great council of Westminster, on Wednesday next after Ascension day, 30th May, 17 Ed. 2d.," and as "William de Sevanns," appointed with others to blockade the sea-coast from Bromhill to Dengemarsh, for the purpose of preventing the landing of emissaries from France, 19 Edward II.—*Vide* Parliamentary Writs under those dates.

aged fifteen years. Thirdly, on the 1st of November, 1364 (38th of Edward III.), another inquisition was taken at Canterbury, "post mortem" the same "Elizabeth, who was wife of William Sevance, deceased," when the jurors say that she held no lands "in capite," but that she held for term of life the manor of Milton with William de Sevance, late her husband, deceased, of the heirship of William, son of the late William, deceased, who held in capite, being within (under) age, and in custody of the king. "That said Elizabeth died Thursday, on the Feast of St. Simon and St. Jude, An° 30 of the king that now is; and they say that William de S. is son and heir of the said William, and of the age of twenty-one years and more." It will be observed that in none of these inquisitions is "William, son of William de Septvans," called also the son of Elizabeth, but only her next heir.* That he was her son, however, there can be little doubt, from the singular proceedings which took place in 1366, fortieth of

* It is singular that none of the records respecting this Elizabeth de Septvans enlighten us on the important point of her own family. We are inclined however to believe that she was by birth a Darrell. In Le Neve's Church Notes, so often quoted by us, we find that in the windows of St. John's Hospital at Canterbury there were the figures of a lady and a knight kneeling on cushions, underwritten "Orate p. anima W^m^ Septuan Militis et Eliz. ux^r^ ejus." The lady having on her mantle azure a lion rampant crowned, or; and that at the same period were to be seen in St. Alphage Church in the same city: azure a lion rampant, crowned, or, in conjunction with the arms of Septvans.

Edward III.,* when an inquisition "probatio etatis" was granted on the petition of William de Septvans, who had been "led away and counselled" by Sir Nicholas Loveyne, of Penshurst, and others named in the petition, "to alienate his lands and tenements" to them, he not being at that time of full age, as had been falsely represented. The result of this inquiry, held before John de Cobham, Thomas de Lodelowe, and William Waure, at Canterbury, was the proof that the petitioner was not even then of age, and would be only "twenty years, and no more, on the Feast of St. Augustine the Doctor next coming;" and the grounds on which they came to this decision was, that many of the knights and esquires on this inquest † were with the Earl of Huntingdon when the King (Edward III.) was at Caen (20th of July, 1346), and that the said Earl of Huntingdon returned to England to be cured of a malady which he had, and William de Septvans, father of the infant, was in the retinue of the Earl, and returned to England with him, at which time they

* The letters patent were dated "13th of April, in the fortieth year of our reign," the King being then at Rushingdon, a manor in Minster, Isle of Sheppy.

† These twelve "knights and squires" were Sir John de Northwode, Sir Thomas Apuldrefield, Sir Thomas Chiche, Sir Richard at Lese, Sir John de Brockhull, John Barry, William Apuldrefield, Thomas Colepepper, Henry Apuldrefield senior, Henry Aucher, Fulk Payforer, and Geoffrey Colepepper; all Kentish worthies, many of whom we learn were at the taking of Caen and the surrender of Calais.

found the wife of the said William pregnant of the said infant. That the Earl of Huntingdon went away to Poplar in order to have his physicians handy from London, and made the countess * live at Preston (a parish adjacent to Ash), in order to be godmother of the child when it should be born; that the infant was born on the day of St. Austin the Doctor, next after (28th of August, 1346); and that William, abbot of St. Austin's, and Thomas de Aldon the elder, both since deceased, were godfathers of the said infant, and the Countess of Huntingdon godmother; and very soon after the earl was cured, and returned to France, and came to the siege of Calais, and William de Septvans with him; and the said William told his companions, who were sworn on this inquest, how since his departure from them God of His grace had so visited him, that he had sent him a son, &c.

We have abridged this account from the documents which are printed in *extenso* in the 1st volume of the Archæologia Cantiana, to which excellent work we refer those who need further particulars, our object being only to show that William de Septvans was born 28th of August, 1346, and must certainly, therefore, have been the child of Elizabeth, widow of

* This was the celebrated Julianna de Leyborne, countess of Huntingdon, of whom we have spoken so often. The inventory of her goods at her "House at Preston" is published with her will and various other interesting particulars in the Archæologia Cantiana, vol. i.

the elder William, in 1351, when his heir was correctly found to be five years of age. Most provokingly, however, neither her name nor that of her family is mentioned in the above minute particulars. It is important, also, to call attention to the fact that no other issue is alluded to; and as William de Septvans returned to France shortly after his wife's confinement, the probabilities are that his son William was an only child, whereas a brother, named John, has been given to him in the pedigrees, from whom descended the Septvans, *alias* Harfleets, of Molland and Checquer. We must clear off this direct line first.

Sir William de Septvans (third of that name), Knt., was sheriff of Kent, and married Elizabeth, daughter of —— Boteler, of Woodhall, co. Hertford. He died in 1407, and was buried at Christ Church, Canterbury, under a flat stone in the middle aisle, with his arms and those of his wife, and the following epitaph:—

"Icy gist Guliam Sepvanus chevalier qui morust le Darnier jour D'Aust L'an de Grace M.CCCCVIJ. de quele Alme Deux eit pité et mercy Ame."

Sir William Septvans left by his wife Elizabeth Boteler, who survived him,* a son, named after him William, who was also knighted, and married

* She was living in 1448, and had remarried with Sir Richard Welsted, Kt.

Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John Peche,* and died March 4th, 1448-9, being closely followed to the grave by his widow, who died only twenty-four days after him, as we learn from his epitaph, formerly in Christ Church, Canterbury, where they were buried close to his father the sheriff.

"Sub hoc marmore jacent corpora Willi Sepuans, militis qui obijt quarto die Martij, Anno Dñi 1448, et Elizabethæ uxoris ejus filiæ Johanis Peche militis quæ obiit 28 die mensis Martii quorum animabus propitietur Deus, Amen."

They had issue but one child, Elizabeth, who married Sir William Fogg, of Repton, near Ashford, and thus ended the name of Septvans in the eldest line of the family. We must now return to the issue of John, son of the first William de Septvans by Elizabeth Pimpe, and husband of a daughter of Roger Manston. By her he had John Septvans, of St. Laurence and Sittingbourne, and a daughter named Joan, who became the wife of Sir John Leverick, of Ash.

John Septvans, of Sittingbourne, married Constance St. Nicholas; but which of that family was her father has not yet been discovered. It is only stated that he was of Thanet. No such name as Constance is to be found in the pedigrees or wills of the St. Nicholas'; but her husband is said to have been lord of the manor

* The singular fact of four successive Williams de Septvans marrying each a wife named Elizabeth, increases the usual difficulties and confusion to be found in such researches.

of Upper Hall, which came to the family of St. Nicholas through the Goshalls.* By this Constance he had two sons and two daughters, John, Thomas, Constance, and Susan. John Septvans was Esquire of the Body to King Henry VI., and died Dec. 18th, 1458, apparently without issue by his wife, Katharine, who survived him and married, as it has been supposed, secondly, Wigmore, and thirdly, Martin of Graveney,† and dying in 1498, desired to be buried with her former husband, John Septvans, at Ash. We have gone so fully into the question of this lady's family (presumed to be Kirton), in our last chapter (pp. 218—224), that we need not dwell upon it here, further than to express our doubt of the accuracy of the statement that she married, secondly, Wigmore. The "John Wigmore" she calls her son died 26th of October, 1492, and the name of "*Editha* consortis suæ," has been singularly omitted in Weever's copy of the

* Philipot. Vill. Cant. We know from the will of Katherine, wife of John, the son of this Constance, that he founded the Chantry of the Upper Hall in St. Nicholas Church, Ash, but we question the manor descending from the Goshalls. Lewis (Hist. Thanet) tells us that Upper Court was so called to distinguish it from *Nether* Court, which belonged to the Goshalls, and that it was formerly a part of the estate of the family of Criol, in which it continued till the latter end of the reign of Henry VI., when it was passed away by Sir Thomas Criol to John White, Esq., who died seized of it ninth of Edward IV. If this descent of the property be correct, we cannot see when or how Upper Court or Hall, as it was indifferently called, came to either St. Nicholas or Septvans before 1458.

† "Orate Johannis Martin Arm. qui obiit ultimo Octob. 1479."—Mon. Inscrip., Graveney, Weever's Mon., p. 282.

monumental inscription at Faversham, but preserved by Lewis in his History of that place, p. 19.* It is, therefore, more probable that the "Edythe Wygmere" she calls her daughter was, in point of fact, her own child, either by Septvans or Martyn, and John Wygmere, the husband of Edith, her son *in law*. Both could not be her own issue, and the distinction we nowadays make is of very recent origin. In Graveney church we are told that the arms of Martin impaling those assigned to Kirton were in a window by the north door, and the figure of a woman by it kneeling.† This is conclusive as far as the match with Martin goes, and we have shown that a similar proof existed in Ash church, in 1760, of the match with Septvans; but where have we such a corroboration of the match with Wigmore? In Mr. Streatfield's interleaved copy of Hasted it is true there is a drawing of a shield, Wigmore impaling Kirton, placed in conjunction with two others, displaying Septvans and Martyn, with similar impalements; but no authority is quoted, and we are inclined to believe that it was only drawn in accordance with the received opinion that Wigmore was her second husband. Of this we humbly submit we have no proof, and that

* Orate pro animabus Johannes Wygmore generosus quondam socii de Gray's Inn et Editha consortis suæ et omnium filiarum suarum ac Ricardi filii ejus qui quidem Johannis obiit xxvi die mensis Octobris Anno Domini millessimo ccccxcij, quorum animabus propicietur Deus Amen." On a brass plate fastened on a flat stone; no arms mentioned.

† Philipot's Church Notes, Harleian MSS. Brit. Mus., No. 3917.

the evidence adduced in its favour is fairly open to the interpretation we have given to it.

To return to our genealogy. Thomas is marked as son and heir by Philipot, and may, therefore, have been the elder brother of John: he died before him, however, and unmarried, or at least without issue, 31st of Henry VI., 1453. Susan married Sir Henry Hardress, Knt., and Constance became a nun, and eventually Abbess of Minster in Sheppey. Thus terminated this line of the family of Septvans.

We have now to affiliate another John Septvans, the husband of Anne de Sandwich, and progenitor of that prolific branch of the family afterwards assuming the name of Harfleet. This John Septvans is, both by Philipot and by Hasted, who has followed him without comment or investigation, made in some places the son of Sir William Septvans, who died in 1351, and in others of Sir William's brother, Simon or Symkin; in each case his mother is said to have been Maud de Twitham, who, with equal impartiality is made daughter of Theobald, and daughter of Alan de Twitham, and married to William in one pedigree, and to Simon in another.* Hasted under Meopham (Hist. Kent, vol. i.) very circumstantially informs us, that Theobald died seized of that manor, 4th of Richard II., without issue, leaving Maud, his only daughter, heir to his large possessions in this country, all of which she carried in marriage to Simon Sept-

* Philipot's MS. Coll. Arms, marked *Annulet.*

vans, a younger branch of the Septvans of Milton, &c., quoting Philipot, and what is of more importance, "*Rot. Esch. sub anno.*" He then adds, Simon had by Maud a son, Sir William de Septvans, whose son John married Constance, daughter of Thomas Ellis, Esq., of Sandwich, &c., &c.*

We would not bewilder our readers with this mass of error and confusion, were there not glimpses of truth to be seen through it which may greatly assist our inquiries. The glaring inaccuracies and contradictions of Philipot's statements which had been so complacently copied by Hasted without a note of interrogation, induced us to rely with more confidence on an elaborate pedigree by the former, compiled apparently from family documents, and certified by no less a personage than Camden Clarenceux.† In this pedigree, Maud de Twitham is definitively married to Sir William Septvans, and made the mother of Sir William the Sheriff, and of the John Septvans in question. We have, however, shown a few papers back, that Sir William the Sheriff, about whose age so much dispute occurred, must have been the son of Elizabeth, who survived his father, and of whom he is found to be the heir, and that the peculiar circumstances of the case render it improbable that he had any brother. In the will of the Sheriff, proved October 4th,

* Philipot's MS. Coll. Arms, marked *Mascle,* and Villare Cantianum, page 235.

† Philipot's MS., marked *Annulet, ut supra.*

1407, no mention is made of a brother John; but, in the curious proceedings above alluded to, we find that amongst the lands illegally alienated by William while under age and before 1364, was the Manor of Promhull (Bromhill) in the County of Kent, which he had of the gift and feoffment of Richard de Alesle, Rector of the Church of Harrietsham, on which was a rent-charge of ten pounds per annum for life to John Septvans: but no hint as to his affinity. We now come to another curious piece of evidence which has hitherto, we believe, escaped observation. The earliest pedigree of the Septvans contained in the Visitations (D. 13, Coll. Arm.), commences with John de Septvans, but does not say of whom he was the son.* The arms, however, which are drawn in trick, display azure, three winnowing fans, or (the old coat of the Septvans), *differenced with a border checky of the same.* This is surely a strong corroboration of the statement which makes him the cousin instead of the brother of Sir William the Sheriff, and induces us, in conjunction with other evidence, to believe so far in

* Nor whom he married. No wives are mentioned in the earlier portion of this Pedigree, which otherwise would have been so valuable. The MS. is not, however, quite so old as presumed, at least this part of it. It is described as a visitation by Benolt Clarenceux, *temp.* Henry VIII., and the majority of the arms and pedigrees appear to be of that date; but we shall show hereafter that this particular genealogy of Septvans, at page 27 of the volume, could not have been entered before the sixth of Elizabeth, 1564, and it is evident that other entries have been made in several pages by a later hand.

that pedigree which makes him the son of Simon by Maud de Twitham. All we hear of Simon is that he was living in the reign of Edward II.; of Maud de Twitham we have found no trace.

The Roll of 4th Richard II., apparently quoted by Hasted in support of the statement of the marriage of Simon with Maud, daughter and heir of Theobald de Twitham, mentions neither of them. It is a mere repetition of the post mortem Inquisition of the 25th of Edward III., 1351, concerning the lands of Alan de Twitham, Lord of Twitham, and showing that Alan the son of Theobald de Twitham, son of the before-named Alan, is the nearest heir, and of the age of five years. It, however, proves this much in contradiction to the assertions of Philipot and Hasted, viz.: that Theobald did not die without male issue, and that if any Maud de Twitham became his heir, it must have been after the death of his son Alan, who was living 1351, and nearest heir to his grandfather.* Of course it does not follow that he had not a sister or an aunt (for, as we have mentioned, she is sometimes called daughter of Theobald and sometimes of Alan), who was named Maud, and married Simon Septvans, and as we hear no more of young Alan, she or her issue might have inherited the whole of the property.

* A valuation of the lands of the same Alan the son of Theobald, also appears in the Escheats of the nineteenth and twentieth of Richard II., 1396-97, as we have already stated at page 93, but neither seems to be an inquisition on the death of Alan, who, if living at that period, would have been only fifty.

That some such circumstance did occur is evident by the descendants of John de Septvans, quartering the coat of Twitham, and the same fact tends to substantiate our statement, that William the Sheriff was not the son of Maud de Twitham, as no such quartering is to be found in the arms of that branch of the family.

John Septvans, son, as we believe, of Simon by Maud de Twitham, married Anne, daughter and heir of Sir Nicholas de Sandwich. And now we arrive at a period when our researches are assisted by several important documents, for the copies of which we are indebted to Philipot, who has appended them to one of his Pedigrees of Septvans.*

We shall give them in chronological order, and in support of the various points as they arise.

The first we shall quote is the earliest in date, and is a deed of gift by Thomas Loverick, Esq., to Gilbert, son of John Sepuans, of Cheker in Ash, Co. Kent, Esq., of three acres of land in Ash aforesaid, dated 10 day of May, 44th of Edward III. (A.D. 1370), and the witnesses are John Sepuans, Esquire, John at Molland, Thomas, Adam, Nicholas at Children (Chilton?), John and Thomas Roger, Hamon de Strigula, and many others.†

* MS. Coll. Arm. marked "Mascle," p. 8, and headed, "The profe for the changinge the name of Sepuans toe Cheker, and from Cheker toe Harflete, appereth in these evidences."

† "Sciant presentes, &c., quod ego Thoma Loverick armiger dedi, &c. Gilberto filio Johīs Sepuans de Cheker in Ashe in cōm Cantij

The second is a similar grant by John Diggs to John Sepuans, of two acres and a half of land lying below Checquer Court ("sub cur del Escheker"), dated 2nd of Richard II. (A.D. 1379), witnessed by Gilbert at Cheker.*

The third is a gift (we presume in trust) by John Septuans to Gilbert *Alflete* and John Gray, of all the lands he had in Ash, dated the day of St. Barnabas the Apostle, 17th of Richard II. (A.D. 1394).† These three documents show that John Septvans of Checquer in Ash, Esq., was living in 1394, and had a son, Gilbert, who we shall find succeeded him in that property. Philipot also gives him a daughter Emma, who married Sir William Leverick, as we have stated at page 96. John Septvans of Checquer died, we presume, shortly after the execution of the above decd. At all events, he was dead in 1399, when the fourth document shows that William and Thomas of Molland in Eshe (Ash) gave to Gilbert Sepuans, alias

Armigeri tres acras terræ mee, jacent in Ash p^rdic. Data apud Ash p^rdic 10 die mensis Maij anno 44 regni Edwardi tertij. Hijs Testibus Johane Sepuans Armigero, Johanne at Molland, Thome, Adam, Nicholas at Childern, Johanne et Thome Rogero, Hamone de Strigula, et multis alijs." Seal obliterated.

* "Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Johannes Diggs dedi Johanni Sepvans duas acras et dimid terre iacent sub cur del Escheker." Data ij Richard 2^nd^ Hijs testibus Gilberto at Cheker et multis alijs.

† Sciant, &c., quod ego Johes Sepuans dedi, &c., Gilberto Alflete et Johanni Gray omnes illas terras quod habui in Ash. Data die S^te^ Barnabi Apōsti. 17 Richardi secundi.

"at Cheker," half an acre of land lying at Smallbrooke in Eshe aforesaid,* the lands of William and Thomas aforesaid, to the West, and the lands of the heirs of William Roger to the North, and the lands of the said Gilbert to the South, and the lands of *the heirs of John Septvans* to the East. Given at Eshe aforesaid 22nd of Richard II., A.D. 1399.† This completely settles the question as to John Septvans being at the Siege of Harfleur with Henry V., in 1415; and supposing him to be the John Septvans who had a rent-charge on Bromhill in 1366, it is clear he had a son Gilbert past infancy, if not of full age in 1370, and must therefore have been born some time previously to Sir William the Sheriff, yet certainly not his elder brother.

Besides Gilbert, John had two other sons,‡ named John and Thomas, amongst whom his property is said to have been thus divided:—To John, called the eldest, he gave Hills or Helles, Twitham, Chilton, and

* Quere, Swallow brook? vide will of Stephen Hongham, cited at page 58.

† "Sciant presentes et futuri quod nos Willm̄s et Thomas de Molland in Eshe dedimus, etc. Gilberto Sepuans al̄s atte Cheker dimidium acram terre jacentum q apud Smallbrooke in Eshe p^{e} dict terris Will̄i et Thome p^{r}dic versus west et terris hered^{s} Willi Roger versus north et terris dicti Gilberti versus south et terris Hered^{s} Johannis Sepuans versus Est. Data apud Eshe p^{r} dic 22 Regni Regis Ricdi secundi." No seal.

‡ "John Sepvans, of the maner of Cheker, in the county of Kent, Esquire, marrid and had yssue John Sepvans, his eldyst sone, Thomas seconde w^{h} died bothe sans yssue; Gilbert, third sone, succeeded." D. 13 Coll. Arms.

Molland in Ash, and other lands in Kent. Thomas, second son, had Dean Court, in Meopham, and other lands; and Gilbert his manor of Checquer, in Ash.* As we have sufficient evidence of the last fact, in the grant we have just quoted, we may fairly give credence to the other portion of the statement professing to be drawn from family sources at a time when the lineal descendants were in possession of the estates aforesaid. John and Thomas, we are told, died without issue, whether married or unmarried we know not. Their portions probably reverted to Gilbert, the sole surviving son, who, by Constance, daughter and coheir of Thomas Ellis, of Sandwich, Esq., had three sons,† Thomas, Edward, and John, and one daughter, Margaret. This Constance has been confounded with Constance St. Nicholas, who married John Septvans, of St. Lawrence and Sittingbourne, by some writers, and is made the wife of her father-in-law, John of Ash, in one of Philipot's pedigrees. After the death of her husband, Gilbert, she married, secondly, John Notbeam, of Ash. Gilbert was living in 1416, when he executed a testamentary document, the fifth of those copied by Philipot, which is to this effect:—As Gilbert de

* Philipot and Vincent's "Kent." Coll. Arm.

† The Visitation, D. 13. Coll. Arms, only names Thomas. "Gilbert Sepvance, thirde sone to John Sepvance, was called Gilbert Atcheker als Harfleure, who marryed and had yssue Thomas." He is afterwards, however, called "eldyst sone and heire to Gilbert," indicating that there was other issue.

Cheker, he confirms a charter of the same date infeoffing Sir Thomas Monketon, chaplain, and John Churchgate, of the parish of Ash, in all his arable lands, on condition that the said Thomas, the chaplain, and John shall, after his death, give his wife seizin and possession of forty-one acres, the same number of acres to his son Thomas, two acres to Margaret Armys,(?) and one acre to the chantry of Ash, the residue of his goods and arable lands to remain in the possession of his executors. Dated 20th of September, fourth of Henry V. (A.D. 1416).*

We are here met by a most serious contradiction. In one of Vincent's MSS., Coll. Arms, No. 145, is this note :—"This Gilbert was called Gilbert Septvans, *alias* Cheker, as appearith by a dede dated eighth Henry IV. He was also called Gilbert Harflete by the last will of Joane, his wife, dated 1432, Ao. H. 6, xi., and by the said will the sayd Johan did make Thomas, her son, her executor."

* Omnibus presentes literas visuris vel auditur salutem. Cum ego Gilbertus de Cheker 20 die Septemb carta meam de feodo confirmavi Dno Tho Monketon Capellano et Johi Churchgate de Parochia de Ash omnes terras meas arabiles ut pr dic carta evidencis apparet sub toti tamen condicione qd pe dic Tho Capellanus et Johis post mortem meum p̄ conffestum reddant uxori mei seissinam et possessionem xli acr̄. Item qd reddant Thomæ filio meo xli acr̄ Item qd reddant Margarete Armijs (?) sessinam duār acræ. Item qd reddant Cantuariæ de Eshe seissinam unius acræ. Residuum omnem honorz mearz terraz Arabiliu qd dimittant in possessione Excecutorm mearz in cuis res Testimonium sigillum meum appossui. Dat 20 Septembris, 4to Regis Henrici quinti." Sealed with 3 vans.

This is terribly circumstantial, and unfortunately Gilbert, in the above disposition of his property, simply says "uxori mei," without the addition of her name; but there is pretty sufficient evidence that his *widow*, Constance Ellis, remarried with John or William Notbeame, of Ash, by whom she had a daughter, Alice, married to Richard Exherst, of Ash, and the arms of Ellis, of Sandwich, are quartered next to those of Sandwich in the escutcheons of the Harfleets, their immediate descendants. We could find no will of a Joan Septvans in the Prerogative Court at Canterbury, and though we do not doubt that Vincent had knowledge of such an instrument, yet, as he does not give us a copy of it, we feel confident that there is some confusion either of names or persons. There may have been a Gilbert Harfleet living (circa) 1432 who had a wife Joan and a son Thomas.* We have often wondered that the name of Gilbert did not reappear at all in the pedigree. There is nothing in Vincent's note to identify the husband of Joan with the Gilbert Septvans *alias* Cheker "of the deed of the eighth of Henry IV., A.D. 1407," who was at that time the husband of Constance. We have no very positive evidence respecting the issue of

* Thomas At Chequer, alias Harfleet, in his will proved 1559-60, mentions a "Joan Harflete, widow," who *late* held certain premises in Ash street for the term of her life, but unfortunately does not say of whom she was the widow. The word "late," however, would indicate a more recent date than 1432, that of the will of the Joan in question.

Gilbert, except that of his having a son Thomas. A son John is named by Philipot, and a son Edward,* who had a daughter named after her grandmother Constance, by Vincent.† There might have been a fourth son named after his father Gilbert, of whom this is the only record, and who at the same time, with his elder brother Thomas, assumed the name of Harfleet; for here again we are helped by Philipot, who appends to his "profes" above quoted this note:—"Thomas, the sonne of Gilbert Sepuans (who tooke the name of the manner of y^{e} Cheker), loste that name after it was sould to Mr. Aldy, and wrote himself in all his deeds Thomas at Cheker *alias* Harflete; and soe it continued till Sir Thomas Harflete's father, who revived the name of Sepuans, and Sir Thomas aforesaid hath bought the manner of y^{e} Cheker againe; and it is to

* In the Prerog. Off., Cant., is the will of an Edward Septvans, "Armiger" of Canterbury (9th of Sep^{r}, 1465), in which he leaves all his goods to his wife, Benedicta, and makes her executrix with William Lynnch (?) and Thos. Arnold. If the son of Gilbert, he must have died "vita patris." An Edward Septvans is named in the will of John Notbeame of Rucking, March 4, 1400, who bequeaths to him six spoons, at the same time he leaves to William Septvans K^{t}, various articles of plate and seven of his best silver spoons, making him residuary legatee and executor of his will in conjunction with his own brother William Notbeame and Stephen Wynder. Isabella, servant to said Edward Septvans, is also mentioned in the will.

† No. 123, Coll. Arms, and Philipot 26, they also give Gilbert a daughter named Margaret, who married William Falcocke, according to Philipot, and is made "uxor Barton" by Vincent. Was she the Margaret Armys (?) mentioned by Gilbert in his will above quoted?

be noted that they sealed with the Fanns, and fixed them on their monuments, which are most of them yet to be seene at Ash."

In addition to this, he inserts in the Pedigrees accompanying "the proofs," "Thomas Sepuans took the name of his manour of Flete, and called himself Harflete." Thus completely ignoring the whole story about the assumption of that name by John in consequence of deeds performed by him at the Siege of Harfleur, called Harfleet by the English.

This Thomas, the eldest son of Gilbert of Checquer, married Alice, daughter of John Valoynes, Esq., by whom he had two sons, Thomas and John,* and four daughters, Mary who married a Smith, Elizabeth who married —— Lancaster, Margaret wife of Walter Barton of Wingham Barton,† and Joan wife of Thomas Finneux, from whom Judge Finneux. Thomas, according to the Visitation D. 13 Coll. Arms, was the eldest son, but died without issue.‡ John the second son married Florence, daughter and heir of John Clarke of Brayborne, Co. Kent, by a daughter of Engham of Chart. We have no record of the death of Thomas Harfleet, or of Alice his wife,

* "Thomas Atcheker als Harflewe, eldyst sone and heire to Gilbert, maryed and had yssue Thomas, hys eldyst sone, John, second sone." D. 13.

† There may be some confusion here between this Margaret, daughter of Thomas, and her aunt Margaret, daughter of Gilbert, as both are said to have married Barton.

‡ "Thomas Atcheker, eldyst sone and heire to Thomas, died sans yssue."

but Vincent, in his "Kent," No. 145, Coll. Arms, has this note: "It appears by a deed dated 32^{d} of Henry 6th, that this John was the son of Thomas Sepvans, alias Harflete." It is probable therefore that Thomas was living 1458, as well as his son. The issue of John by Florence Clarke is said to have been two sons, John and Christopher;* we hear of no daughters. John died without issue; Christopher married Alice, daughter of —— Notbeame of Ash, and was dead in 1488, for here again we enter the region of fact, as we have the will of his widow Alice, dated 16th of October in that year, beginning, "Y^{e} Dame Alice Septvans, the widow of Christopher Septvans, Esq., late of the parish of Ayshe beside Sandwich." In it she names the daughter of Edward Septvans, but does not give her Christian name, nor enlighten us as to the parentage of Edward.

The only daughter of an Edward Septvans we have yet met with is Constance, daughter of Edward, son of Gilbert. It is possible she might be living in 1488, but at a very advanced age. We cannot positively identify that Edward with the Edward husband of Benedicta, whose will is dated in 1415, and from the fact of the latter being described as of Canterbury, we are inclined to think he may have been a younger son of Sir William the Sheriff, who is executor to the will of John Notbeame, in which Edward and his

* "John Atcheker als Harflete, seconde sone to Thomas, and brother and heire to Thomas aforesaid, maryed and had yssue Xpher." D. 13.

servant Isabella are remembered. In 1471, a Thomas Septvans of the parish of Worth bequeaths to Benedicta his mother for life an annuity of 6 marks, which the lady Septuans gave him out of the tenement called "Le Cheker," and the lands belonging to the same; also his house at Newenton, remainder together with said annuity to be sold.* Was he the son of the Benedicta, widow of Edward? There is nothing but the name to guide us. He leaves, however, to William Saye eleven shillings, and to John Saye "*fratre meo*" a garden in the parish of Worth. By "my brother" he must mean either his mother's son by a former husband or his brother-in-law, for such a connection is constantly so called in documents of this period. He also leaves to Elizabeth, wife of William Leute of Sandwich, 3s. and 4d. No children are mentioned, but it by no means follows that he had none.

There is no mention in any of the pedigrees or genealogical notices of any issue of Thomas Harfleet by Alice Valoynes, except Thomas and John; nor of any of John by Florence Clarke, except Christopher; but the latter is called eldest son and heir of John, in the Visitation D. 13, thereby indicating other issue.† Christopher Harfleet had by Alicia at least two sons, Raymond and Roger, both living in 149¾, when a "Thomas Harfleet" of Staple,

* Prerog. Office, Canterbury.

† "Xpher Atcheker als Harflete, *eldyst sone* and heire to John, maryed and had issue Raymond, his eldyst sone, Roger, his seconde sone."

possessor of lands in the Hamlets of Chilton and Molland in Ash, wills to Isabella his wife all his lands and tenements for the term of her life, with remainder to Raymond Harfleet, in tail and remainder to Roger, brother of the said Raymond; dated February 14th, and proved the same year.* He does not mention his own relationship to Roger and Raymond, but they seem to have been his next of kin, and he may have been their uncle, a younger brother of Christopher.†

Of Roger we have the following evidence amongst Philipot's proofs:—"I, Roger Harflete, otherwise called Roger at Checker, son and one of the heirs of Christopher Harflete, otherwise called Christopher at Cheker, and Alice, formerly his wife, release Raymond Harflete also called Raymond at Cheker, my brother, in all the lands and tenements in Ashe. Dated 3rd of May, 24th year of the reign of Henry VII."‡

This Roger Harfleet is set down by Philipot as

* Prerog. Office, Canterbury.

† It was probably a daughter of this Thomas of Staple who was the wife of Stephen Solly in 1509.

‡ "Noverint &c. quod ego Rogerus Harflete als dictus Rogerus at Checker filius et unus heredem Christopheri Harflete alij dicti Christoferi atte Cheker et Alicii nuper uxoris ejus, remisisse Raymondo Harflete also dicti Raymondo atte Cheker fratre meo in omnibus terris et tenementis in Ashe. Data 3 Maij, 24 Regni Regis Henrici Septimi." Henry VII. died in *April*, 1509, in the *24th year* of his reign, commencing on the 23rd of August, 1508. It should therefore probably be the 23rd year.

leaving an only daughter named Agnes, married to "—— Stamble (Stumble), of Ash, father of James, father of Christopher,"* but we have no hint as to who was her mother. In the above grant of Roger to Raymond he neither mentions wife nor daughter. With respect to the latter, we were in hopes the registers at Ash might throw some light on the subject; our readers may therefore imagine our disappointment at finding among the burials in December, 1570, "—— Stumble, widow, buried y^e^ 4th," neither her own Christian name nor that of her husband! We are consequently prevented identifying her with Agnes Harfleet, and so far corroborating Philipot's assertions.

Raymond Harfleet alias at Checquer, witnessed the

* Pedigree Philipot, *Annulet.* The name was Stumble as appears from the various registers at Ash, and the wills of James and Christopher. It is in no case written Stamble. James Stumble was of Woodnesborough. His will is dated 25th March, 1582, and was proved 1st April following, but unfortunately it contains no mention of the name of his father or mother. James Stumble married Christian Lee, October 21st, 1572. Christopher, son of James Stumble, baptized December 8th, 1573. Oliver Stumble baptized October 2nd, 1575, and Christian, wife of James Stumble, buried October 21st, 1578. The above are all extracted from the Registers at Ash. Christopher Stumble of Woodnesborough died in February, 1596-7. In his will, proved 4th of that month, he describes himself as "husbandman," bequeaths all his goods and chattels to his brother Oliver, and desires his *master*, William Marshall, to be overseer of his will, which is witnessed by Elias Jacob, and Henry Harfleet. Pre. Off., Cant. The latter name indicates a family connection, but the above dates are difficult to reconcile with the statements in Philipot's pedigree.

will of Sir Thomas Bode, Vicar of Ash, July 1st, 1519; but we have not the date of his death. He married Beatrix, daughter and heir of Richard Brooke,* by whom he had, according to the earliest Visitation of Kent, D. 13, two sons, Thomas and William,† and we believe a third, named John; as we find a "John Harflete" buried, 15th December, 1558,‡ whom we can trace to no other line. Of William we hear no more. Both may have married and had issue, but we have no record of the fact. A "Nicholas Harflete," whom we cannot affiliate, is witness to the will of Stephen Hougham of Ash, dated 20th November, 1555, with Christopher Harfleet, eldest son of Thomas (brother of William), just mentioned.

With this Thomas, then, we must now proceed. He married, first, Bennett, daughter and heir of George Wynborne, and Alice his wife, daughter and heir of Wolfe of Huntingdonshire;§ and

* His arms quartered with those of Twitham, Sandwich, and Ellis, impaling Lozengy or and gules, a chief azure for Brooke are still in the windows of Molland, vide page 119. We have doubts, however, on this subject. No such arms appear for any *family* of the name of Brooke, but this identical coat is set down in Vincent's Ordinary as that of *William* Brooke of London. It is also remarkable that no *Richard* occurs in the whole of the Harfleet pedigrees.

† "Raymond At-Cheker, alias Harflete, eldest sone and heir to Xpofer, maryed and had issue, Thomas his eldyst sone, William seconde sone."

‡ Ash Reg.

§ His arms, quartering Twitham, Sandwich, Ellis and Wolfe (?),

secondly, Marianne, daughter of Edward Brockhill,* and was buried at Ash, April 4th, 1559. By his first wife, Bennett Wynborne, he had five sons: Christopher, William, John, Vincent, Edward, and George,† and a daughter named Constance;‡ by his second wife he had one son, Henry, and two daughters, Bennett and Susan.§ In his will, proved 29th of January, 1559-60, he describes himself as "Thomas Atcheker, otherwise called Thomas Harflete," and mentions all his sons above-named, but no daughters. Bennett, however, was married to William Bishop, of London, and Susan died unmarried, and was buried at Ash, April 28th, 1565. Of Constance we hear no more.

Christopher, eldest son of Thomas Atchequer, married before 1561,‖ Mercy, daughter of Thomas

impaling quarterly, Wynborne and Wolfe, are in the staircase window at Molland, *vide* page 119. The quartering of Wolfe in his own coat, implies the previous match of a paternal ancestor with an heiress of that family, unless brought in by Ellis. If not a mistake, a curious point for investigation. We have not succeeded in finding any pedigree of Wolfe of Huntingdon, which family appears to have been connected with the Keriels, *vide* pp. 190, 191.

* She survived him, and married, secondly, Vincent St. Nicholas, *vide* pp. 238, 239.

† Visit. D. 13. ‡ Philipot. § Visit. D. 13.

‖ We by this fact approach to a certainty the date of that portion of the MS. D. 13, in Coll. of Arms, as we find in it, "Xpher Atcheker als Harflete, eldyst sone and heire to Thomas, *maryed* Marcy, daughter to Thomas Hendley of Kent, and by her *hathe* issue, Thomas hys eldest sone, and Dorothye." As Thomas was born 1562, and Dorothy in 1564, it is clear that this entry was made in or after the 5th of Queen Elizabeth.

Hendley, of Otham, Esq., and widow of Edmond Fowler of Islington, Esq., born 29th September, 1530. Christopher, who dropped the name of Atchecquer and resumed that of Septvans, signing his will "Christopher Septvans, alias Harflete," died in 1575.* His widow survived him twenty-seven years, and died 27th May, 1602. She bore to him five sons: Thomas, Samuel, Walter, Raymond, and Cornelius,† and three daughters: Dorothy, Susan, and Mildred; Dorothy died an infant, Susan married Edward Carewe of Romford, Co. Essex, Esq., and Mildred, William Courthope of Stodmarsh, Esq.‡

William, second son of Thomas Atchecquer, married a daughter of —— Fiske, by whom he had issue, Edward.§

John Harflete of Ash, third son, in his will proved 19th September, 1581-82,‖ mentions his sons William

* Buried, September 17th, Ash Reg. By his will, proved 18th October following, he bequeaths to his wife "*Mercy*," his Manor of Molland and other estates in Ash, for her life, with remainder to Thomas, his son in tail male, and remainder to sons, Samuel, Walter, and Raymond, in like tail.

† "Cornelius Harfleet, my son," twice mentioned in her will, dated 14th May, 44th Queen Elizabeth (1602), with her sons Walter and Thomas; but no mention of Raymond or Samuel, they might have been dead in 1602; but Cornelius would appear to have been a posthumous son, as he is not named in the remainders over in his father's will. We find neither baptism nor burial of this Cornelius in the register at Ash.

‡ 1583, "Edward Carewe and Susan Harflete married, November 19th," Ash Reg. "My daughter Susanne Carowe." Will of Mary Harflete, 1602. Pedigree, Philipot *Annulet.* Will of Christopher, 1575.

§ Pedigree, Philipot *Annulet.* ‖ Prerog. Off., Cant.

and John, and Mary his daughter, but no wife, she was probably dead; but we know neither her name nor her family.

Of Vincent, Edward and George, the other sons of Thomas Atchecquer, by his first wife, we find no further trace.* Henry Harfleet, his only son by his second wife, married, July 9th, 1577, Mary, daughter of George Stoughton of Ash, and by her, who died in 1594, had a numerous family, of whom anon; and secondly, Silvester, daughter of his stepfather, Vincent St. Nicholas, by a former wife, but by her he had no issue.†

To proceed with the elder line: Thomas Harfleet, afterwards knighted, eldest son of Christopher Septvans, was born in 1562, and married, first, Elizabeth, daughter of William Gilborne of London, Esq., and sister of Sir Richard Gilborne of Charing, Co. Kent, knight; secondly, Bennett, daughter of Michael Berrisford of Squerries, Esq., by Rose, daughter of John Knevit, who died July 2nd, 1612; and thirdly, Dorothy, daughter of Avery Mantell,

* An Edward Harfleet of St. Paul's, Canterbury, Gent., was married to Mary Goodhead of Preston, October, 1605 (Add. MS., Brit. Mus. 5507), and a George Harflett was buried in 1574 (Ash Reg.); another George Harflete of Petham, yeoman, aged 38, was married to Susan, relict of Robert Friend, December, 1628 (Add. MS. *ut supra*), but we cannot undertake to identify them.

† She re-married with Richard Knight of Aldington, yeoman (Add. MS. *ut supra*), and she was a widow when she married Henry Harfleet, who alludes in his will to her "first husband," but not by name.

and widow of Thomas Mendfield, Esq., Mayor of Feversham, who survived him, and married John Darell of Calehill, Esq.* Sir Thomas Harfleet had no issue by his first or third wife; but by Bennett Berrisford he had two sons: Michael, who died without issue, November, 1618,† and Christopher, who succeeded him, and seven daughters, of whom only two survived;‡ Rose, baptized April 27th, 1595, married Charles Trippe of Trapham in Wingham, Co. Kent, July 17th 1615;§ and Jane, married, first, in 1617, to Christopher Toldervey, of Chartham, Esq., who died the following year;‖ and secondly, January 24th, 1619-20, to her cousin, Michael, son of George Berrisford, Esq.¶

Sir Christopher Harfleet, only surviving son of Sir Thomas, was baptized April 5th, 1592, died at Canterbury, and was buried at Ash, August 6th, 1662. He married, April 6th, 1618, Aphra, daughter of . . . . . and widow of . . . . . Alcot, who died in 1664, by whom it appears he left no issue.**

Of Samuel, second son of Christopher Septvans, by

* Ash Registers and Pedigrees, Coll. Arms, Philipot 23, p. 8. Sir Thomas Harfleet was buried 27th September, 1617 (Ash Reg.); will dated 16th September, and proved 9th of October, same year. P.O.C. The will of Thomas Mendfield is printed in Lewis's Feversham, p. 62, dated July 26th, 1614.

† Will, Prerog. Off., Cant., dated 17th October, 1617, proved 10th March, 1618-19.

‡ *Vide* page 229. § Ash Reg.

‖ Mon. In., *vide* page 230, and Ash Reg.

¶ Ash Register.

** *Vide* pages 82 and 344, and note * page 345.

Mercy Hendley, we know but little beyond his baptism, May, 1566. He married September 4th, 1592, Winifred, daughter of Sir Robert Peyton, Bart.,* by Elizabeth, sister of Lord Rich, and widow of —— Osborne, Esq., Counsellor at law, who survived him and married, thirdly, John Hornbye, of Lincolnshire, Esq. Philipot says he had a son also, named Samuel.†

Walter, third son of Christopher, described as of Beakesbourne, married Joan Challoner, and died January 4th, 1642; by her he had three sons and three daughters: John, Walter, Thomas, Jane, Mercy, and Joan;‡ of the sons, John and Walter died (apparently) unmarried. Thomas, the youngest, called of Trapham, married Margaret, daughter of Sir George Newman of Canterbury, knight, by whom he had two daughters, Jane and Aphra; Jane died unmarried, $167\frac{0}{1}$, and Aphra, as heir to her father and sister, succeeding to all the estates in the Parish of Ash, formerly held by Sir Christopher Harfleet (from whom, in default of male issue, they had passed

* Ash Reg. and Add. MS., Brit. Mus. 5507. John Peyton of Iselkam, son of Sir Robert Peyton and Elizabeth Rich, married Alice, daughter of Sir Edward *Osborne*, Lord Mayor of London, A.D. 1583, progenitor to the Duke of Leeds.

† Philipot, MS., marked *Mascle.*

‡ Mary (Mercy ?) Harfleet, aged 18, daughter of Walter Harfleet of Beakesbourne, married Jacob Braems of Dover, Esq., widower, aged 27, in 1624, and Joan, daughter of Walter Harfleet of Beakesbourne, Gent., aged 21, married Arnold Braems of Dover, Merchant (afterwards knighted), aged 27 in 1731. Add. MS. *ut supra.*

in remainder to his cousin Thomas, son of Walter, according to the will of Christopher Septvans, before quoted), conveyed them to her husband, John St. Ledger of Doneraile, Ireland, Esq., and thus was extinguished the line of Septvans, alias Harfleet, of Molland and Checquer.*

We must now return to the issue of John Harflete of Ash, third son of Thomas Atchecquer, before mentioned. His son John, died March, $158\frac{3}{4}$,† unmarried. William, sole surviving son, described as of Sandwich, married Clara, daughter of John Trippe of Trapham in Wingham.‡ By his will, proved 10th December, 1610, we find he left four sons under age: John, William, Charles, and Thomas; and four daughters, Clara, Elizabeth, Mary, and Jane.§ Of

* We have already alluded to the important error of Mr. Hasted, at page 82. The following extract from the Trust Deed, in the chest at Ash, will, we think, be perfectly conclusive:—"This Indenture made the six and twentieth day of Aprill, in the four and twentieth yeare of our Gracious Soveraigne Lord Charles the Second, by the Grace of God, of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, &c.; and in the Yeare of our Lord God, one thousand six hundred, seventy and two. Between *Margaret Harfleete of Trapham,* in the parish of Wingham, in the County of Kent, widow and *relict of Thomas Harfleete, Esq., late of Trapham* aforesaid, John St. Leger of Donerayle in the kingdom of Ireland, Esq., and *Aphra his wife, daughter and heir of Thomas Harfleete aforesaid, and sister and heir of Jane Harfleete, virgin, deceased,* on theyre part," &c.

† Ash Reg. ‡ Visit. Kent, D. 18. Coll. Arms.

§ Prerog. Off., Cant. Clara Harflete of Sandwich, married John Page of Sandwich, mariner, May, 1612; and Mary Harflete of Canterbury, aged 22, daughter of William Harflete of Sandwich,

the sons, Charles appears to have become Vicar of Nonnington, Co. Kent, where, according to Hasted, he died in 1672. Of William and Thomas we know nothing; but John, the eldest son, married Margaret, daughter of Edward Lawrence of Tutsham Hall, Co. Kent, Esq., by whom he had Harriet, married to Thomas Shirley, Esq., and one son, Cornelius, born in 1642, who married, first, in 1670, aged 28, Mary, relict of John Farmer of Sandwich, and secondly, in 1684, Elizabeth Nichols of Adisham.*

This "Cornelius Harflete, Gentleman," is the person we believe to have been buried in the Chancel of Ash Church, May 17, 1694;† but there was another "Cornelius Harflete of Sandwich, woollen draper," living at the same period, who was a "widower" in 1678, when he married Mary Elgar of Sandwich, aged 21, and again a widower in 1685, married Mary Shrubsole of Canterbury, aged 26.‡

Whether the Cornelius Harfleet, who died in 1694, left issue, we have not ascertained, but by what appears to be the will of the latter Cornelius, therein calling himself "of Sandwich, merchant," dated 10th February, 1708-9,§ and proved 11th March following, *he* left two sons, Thomas and Henry, the latter under age at that date, and three daughters, Dorothy, Sarah,

Gent., deceased, married John Oldfield of St. Gregories, Canterbury, yeoman, aged 19, in 1623. Add. MS. *ut supra.*

* Add. MS. *ut supra.*

† "*Mr.* Cornelious Harfleete, buried in the Chancel."—Ash Reg.

‡ Add. MS. *ut supra.* § Prerog. Off., Cant.

and Margaret, the two former apparently by a previous marriage. It is to be observed, however, that he twice names his then wife, whom he leaves sole executrix, "Margaret," and not "Mary." The latter name may have been an error of transcription.

Thomas Harfleet of Sandwich (the son named in the will, we presume,) married Jane Hyde of Margate, in 1723,* and another, or perhaps the same Thomas, was made parish clerk of St. Clement's, Sandwich, in 1749.† What a termination to a pedigree traceable from the reign of Henry II.!

It now only remains for us to continue the line from Henry Harfleet of Hills Court, called the elder, the half brother of Christopher and John, being the only son of Thomas Atchecquer, by his second wife Marian Brockhill. This Henry, by his wife Mary Slaughter, had four sons and three daughters: Henry, John, Thomas, and Edward, Mary, Martha, and Susan.‡ John and Edward died young.§ Thomas, baptized 18th August, 1587, married November, 1610, Elizabeth Oxenden,‖ by whom he had three sons, Chris-

* Add. MS. *ut supra.* † Ibidem.

‡ Ash Reg. Mary married Ethebert Omer, *yeoman*, at St. Margaret's, Canterbury, October 16th, 1600. Martha married John Hasnode of Canterbury, *tailor*, November 7th, 1608. And Susan, Henry Musred of Ash, *husbandman*, November 30th, 1609.—Ash Reg. and Add. MS. *ut supra.*

§ John baptized March 3rd, 1583-4, buried June 28th, 1599, Edward baptized January 25th, 1589-90, buried May 28th, 1599.—Ash Reg.

‖ "Thomas Harflete of Ash, Gent., and Elizabeth Oxenden of Wingham."—Add. MS. 5507.

topher, John, and Thomas, and two daughters, Mary and Elizabeth.* The latter, baptized at Wingham 2nd February, $161\frac{5}{6}$, was, we presume, the Elizabeth Harfleet who married, in 1652, Thomas Kitchell, and was at that time probably heir to her father, as her sister died in infancy, and we hear no more of her brothers. Henry, the eldest son of Henry of Hills Court, married Dorcas, daughter of Joshua Pordage of Sandwich, by whom he had six sons—Henry, Arthur, Thomas, Christopher, Samuel, and Samuel, and four daughters — Anne, Mary, Deborah, and Priscilla.† Of the sons, Henry alone seems to have married and had issue. By his wife, Dorothy, daughter and heir of Anthony Combe of Greenwich, he had issue two sons, Henry and Samuel, and two daughters, Abigail and Ursula. Of Samuel, baptized at Ash in 1635, we hear no more. "Henry *Seffans*, alias Harflete of Ash,"‡ the elder brother, born 27th September, 1633, and unmarried in 1663, was buried at Ash in 1679, and with him this line seems to have expired. His sister Abigail married Richard Bellamy of Buxley, Co. Leicester, Gent.; and Ursula was buried at Ash two days after her mother Dorothy,

* Registers of Ash and Wingham.

† Ash Register, Visitation, Co. Kent., D. 18. The first Samuel died in infancy, and the second was baptized in the following year, 1626. Anne and Priscilla also died infants, Deborah unmarried in 1641, and Mary married William Sprote of Eastwell, Gent. (Add. MS. 5,507). Henry Harfleet married, secondly, March 26th, 1629, Bennett Huffam (Ash Reg.), by whom it does not appear he had any issue.

‡ Visitation, D. 18.

as "a syngle maiden daughter to the former," June 9th, 1659.

Either the first or the second Henry Harfleet must have been the author of a book without date, entitled "Vox Cœlorum; or, Predictions Defended, with a Vindication of Mr. Lilly's (the celebrated astrologer) Reputation," and dedicated to "John Boys of Betshanger, Esq^re^, one of the members of the honourable House of Commons." Henry Harfleet "the elder," who died in 1608, left all his law books to his son Henry, then 28 years old;* and the probability is that they were both men of literary tastes and habits.

The author of "Vox Cœlorum," Mr. Streatfield observes, was "a favourable prophet to the Republicans."—(Streatfield MSS.) And we are inclined to attribute the work to the second Henry.

A word or two must still be said respecting the arms of this remarkable family. The seal of Robert de Septvans, son of Robert de Septvans, to the charter to St. Gregory's, Canterbury, ante 1216, preserved in the College of Arms, presents us with no armorial bearings, and the earliest example we at present know of them appears in the often engraved sepulchral brass at Chartham of Sir Robert de Septvans, fifth of that name, who died 34th of Edward I., 1306. It affords us a fine specimen of the *ailettes*

* Will Prerog. Off., Cant. He was a member of some Inn of Court. See will of his brother Christopher, who leaves him "£40 per annum if he so so long continue at an Inn of Court."

in fashion at that period (*vide* our notice of the effigy of Sir John Goshall, p. 203), and displays on them, as well as on the surcoat, the winnowing fans, which were most probably at first seven in number for "*Sept*-vans," but reduced, in compliance with a later practice, to three, as they continued to bear them from the 14th century. The earliest example of the crest we have met with is engraved at the head of this chapter from the brass on the gravestone, formerly in Canterbury Cathedral, of Sir William Septvans, 1407, exhibiting the head of a fish erect, as in the monument of John Septvans, Esq., in Ash Church. The line, however, from which the Harfleets descended, bore, as we have already observed, an entire fish *naiant*, called a *bream* by Vincent, and by Philipot a *chevin* or chub. A family named Chevin was settled at Sholand in Newenham, in the reign of Edward III., when one of them married a co-heiress of the Campanias. We have strong suspicions that the Chevins were originally Septvans (Sevins), but if not, the alteration of the crest may have been occasioned by an unrecorded alliance between the two families.

GOSHALL.

Of the origin of this name, whether derived from the family, or *vice versâ*, we have already acknowledged our ignorance. Robert, the earliest of the family so called, appears with his son Ralph as a witness to the Charter of Roger de Chilton, unfortunately not dated, but, from the names of all the parties

concerned in it, evidently not later than the commencement of the thirteenth century. "Rob° de Gosehaule et Radfo f. ejus."* If this Ralph, the son of Robert, be identical with the "Rannulph de Gosehale," who held lands under the Archbishop of Canterbury, 8th of Henry III., A.D. 1224, as we have every reason to believe, his father Robert must have deceased some short time previous to the latter date, and was therefore living in the time of King John and Richard I. A Robert de Gosehall, most likely the same, is witness with Henry de Sandwich to a charter of Matilda de Auberville.† Ranulph, we know, was dead 25th of Henry III., A.D. 1241, when Walter, his son and heir, held $1\frac{1}{2}$ knight's fees in Goshall.‡ In the 37th of Henry III., 1253, there was a final concord between Walter de Gosehale and Richard de Heyrhebye, respecting 60 acres of land in Ash, with appurtenances, in which mention is made of Margery, who was the wife of R. Sanders.§ Here we come to a break in our evidence. We have no information respecting the wives of Robert, Ranulph, or Walter, nor whether they were (and it is most probable they were not) the only children of their fathers, nor can we yet state positively who succeeded Walter de Goshall, but we learn from another source, the Lieger Book of the Priory of Davington, that in the reign of Henry III. there was a Peter de Goleshaule or Gosehaule, who is distinguished as one of the bene-

* *Vide* page 84.

† Harleian Charters, 45, E. 33.

‡ *Vide* page 61.

§ Lansdown MS., Brit. Mus., 267.

factors of that establishment. "Doñs Petrus de Goleshaule sive Gosehaule unus benefactorū nostrorū," and about the same period we find "Sara de Goshaule *Monachā*," and "Johanna soror domine Sara de Gosehaule," recorded amongst the friends or inmates of that house, who were probably buried there.

Hasted, without quoting his authority, says boldly, "John de Goshale was possessed of this manor in the reign of K. Henry III.," at which time, as we have already told our readers,* the celebrated Sir John Maunsell certainly held some portion of it, as in 1258, on his foundation of the Priory of Bilsington, he gave to it all his lands in "Goshale, Polre, and Eche." A few years previously, A.D. 1244, we find Simon son of Henry de Sandwich was in possession of lands at Polre, and we can scarcely doubt that there was some intimate connection between these three families; but the link has yet to be discovered. In the year 1300, a Henry de Thorne owned the manor of Thorne in Minster, Isle of Thanet; and on 7th Kalends of January, 1300-1, complaint having been made against him for causing mass to be publicly said in his private oratory at Thorne, to the prejudice of the mother church, and no notice taken of the interdiction of the oratory by Thomas, Abbot of St. Austin's, letters were sent by the Abbot to the Vicar of Minster, enjoining and commanding him to

* Page 63.

acknowledge the interdict, and threatening with anathematization any person going to mass at the said chapel.* This manor of Thorne passed, it would appear, to the family of Goshall upon the death of Henry, by marriage, it is supposed, with an heiress; but whether the daughter or sister of Henry, we have no evidence. It is, however, just at the time that we find the family of Goshall in connection with those of John Maunsel, Henry de Sandwich, and Henry de Thorne, that the names of John and Henry make their first appearance in the pedigree. We question if any *John* de Goshall was in possession of a portion of the manor of Goshall, *temp.* Henry III., as Hasted asserts. We have evidence of the existence of Walter de Goshall in 1276, third of Edward I.,† and in 1281, eighth of Edward I., we find Henry de Goshall and Alan Tyete concerned in the settlement of lands at Cotmanton, in the parish of Ash,‡ which Lewis tells us was in his time parcel of the estate of Thorne, and anciently belonged to St. Aus-

* Lewis; "Thanet," 4to, 1723.

† His name appears as witness to a charter of William de Breus to Walter de Shipley, Clerico. "H. T. Walter de Gossehale 3 of Edward son of King Henry." A.D. 1276. (Coll. Arm. R. 27, Kent.) In a copy of a Roll of Arms of the 13th century, Vincent 164, p. 136, the arms of a Walter de Goshall are drawn as those of Sandwich, differenced by a hurt, charged with a cinquefoil, or, and in chief two bezants, each charged with a cinquefoil, azure. A very important piece of genealogical evidence.

‡ "Conventio inter Henricum de Goshale et Alanum Tyete de terr apud Cotmanton in poch de Esshe 8 Ed. 1st." (Harleian Charter, 78. D. 24.) The seal to this instrument has only a flower upon it.

tin's Abbey.* As this would be twenty years at least before the death of Henry de Thorne, we are inclined to think his heiress, whoever she was, must have been the wife of the Sir John de Goshall who succeeded Henry de Goshall; but whether as son and heir, or brother and heir, we have nothing to inform us. We find amongst the Harleian Charters several in which mention is made of the Sir John de Goshall who held two knight's fees at Goldstanton and Goshall of the Archbishop, in the time of Edward I. No. 76 E. 55 is one in which Robert, John, and Thomas, sons of Sir Robert de Champagne, acknowledge an annual rent of three pence and one hen to the said John de Goshall, for the occupation of lands not specified, dated 22nd Ed. I. (1294). No. 76 E. 56 is another by the same parties, but without date. Nos. 80 A. 43, 53, and 75, are three charters of William, son of Roger de Pondfelde, to the Lord John de Goshall, Knight, of land in Goldstanton and elsewhere not named, the first being dated 34th Edward I., 1306.

There is also a charter by William de Sandfold confirming John de Goshale, knight, in divers lands and tenements in Ash, of which he had had novel deseisin from Edward I. in the thirtieth year of that reign (A.D. 1303), given at Goldstanton and witnessed by Alan and Theobald de Helles, Thomas at Mollond, &c.

* Called Cotmannefeld in the Valuation by Nicholas de Thorne, Abbot, 1275.—Lewis's "Thanet," pp. 75-82.

In the Lansdowne Collection, No. 268, Brit. Mus., there is a final concord between John de *Gosehawle*, Andrew de Barre, and Roger de Camville, and Isabella his wife, respecting a messuage, &c., in Ash, next Sandwich, dated thirty-first of Edward I.; and in the same MS., page 293, another between John Gosehall and Henry Leverick and Margaret his wife, respecting land in Ash, next Sandwich, thirty-fourth Edward I., 1306.

It would appear that Sir John de Goshall did not long survive the latter date, and was certainly succeeded by his son Henry before the sixth of Edward II., 1313, under which date we have in the Harleian Charters, 78 D. 25, a charter by Henry de Goshall, presenting certain lands in Ash, next Sandwich, to Alicia, widow of Robert de Holonde. The seal is impressed simply with the figure of a rabbit.

This Henry de Goshall, afterwards knighted, was seised of Goshall in the eighteenth of Edward II., 1325, and dead in the seventh Edward III., 1335, when a partition took place between John, Henry, Walter, and Robert, sons of Henry de Gosehall and of Margaret his wife, of lands in St. Lawrence, Minster, and Isle of Thanet, which they had in reversion after the death of Alice, wife of Anselm de Ripple, who had fined for them to John de Gosehall, grandfather of the said John, &c. This most important document, which we have so happily lighted on, gives us in a few lines a quantity of information

not to be found, perhaps, at present, elsewhere. Margaret, the wife of this Henry de Goshall, was, as we have stated in our second chapter, the daughter of Thomas and sister of Nicholas de Sandwich; and the seal to this instrument exhibits two shields suspended from the branches of a tree, according to the fashion of that period; the dexter with the arms of Goshall semée of crosslets, a lion rampant, as formerly on the shield of the Goshall effigy in Ash church, and the sinister with those of Sandwich;* the whole in an oval with the words "Margare . . . . . Gosehal" still clearly legible. We learn from this document that Henry, Walter, and Robert, the three younger sons, were all at that time under age, and the affiliation of their father, Henry, is proved by the declaration that Alicia de Ripple had paid for her lands to John de Gosehale, "*avus* predicti Johannis" (son of the elder Henry) and his brothers. Anselm de Ripple, we gather from other charters, married one of the family of St. Ledger; and John, the son of Anselm, assumed the name of Pesing, or Pysing, from the manor so called in the Hundred of Branesbergh, held by Graaland de St. Ledger in 1227, and which seems to have passed to Anselm de Ripple with his wife Alicia, in one instance called Alicia de Pesing.† From the lands in St. Law-

* The indentation of the chief is obliterated.

† Daughter of Philip de Pesing, who was brother of Hugo de St. Ledger, by Matilda.

John de Ripple (called also de Pesing) had a daughter named

rence, &c. being left in reversion to the sons of Henry de Goshall, there can be little doubt that Alicia de Ripple, who had fined to their grandfather for them, was, either by birth or descent, a member of one of that family. It is unnecessary, however, for us to do more than point out the sources from which further evidence on this point may be obtained by those who are interested in the pursuit of it.* Our next step is to show the succession of the eldest son, John de Goshale, who was in possession of his father's estates in thirteenth of Edward III., when, as John, son of Henry de Gosehale, he made an agreement with Margaret, formerly wife of the said Henry, respecting lands at St. Lawrence and Minster in

Alice, wife of Benedick de Ospringe, living 32nd Henry III.—MS. Coll. Arm. R. 27.

* The following documents, copied in MS. R. 27 Coll. Arms, are those which have led us to these conclusions:

Charter of "Graeling, de Sco Leodegario, lands in Pyssing, H. T. Domo Bertramo de Criollio Constabul de Dovor, Henr. de Sandwyco, &c."

Charter of Johes de Pyssing f. Anselme de Ripple. Charter of the same f. Alicia de Pyssing, 4th Edward I. Charter of the same Johes de Pesing, land which belonged to Grailand, "cognati mei."

"Johes de Pessing de undecim acras tre ppe trans que fuit Grailandi cognati sui." H. T. Pho de Pesing.

Johes de Stifford F. et h. Mich. de Stifford rēmissi, &c., totum jus meum in uno messuag et tribus aeris tre, &c., apd Pessing et in hundredo de Branesbergh quod hui post Johem filiam Phi. de Pessing militis et Graalandi de Scto Leod Legar f. eiusdem Johām avā meam etc. remisi etiam de 64 aeras tre jacent in manerio de Pesing quas hui post Alicia filiam dni sorori dic Johe matris dni Graellandi avi mei.

Thanet; by the description, apparently, that portion to which he became entitled on the death of Alicia de Ripple. Henry de Goshall appears, however, to have had another son named Thomas, who must have been the eldest, married and dead before 1335, as he is not named amongst the brothers in the deed of partition aforesaid. We learn this from a charter of Walter, the fourth son, who, on the 12th of January, twentieth Edward III., 1348-9, having then, of course, attained his full age, as Walter, son of Henry de Gosehale, knight, gives to John de Gosehale, knight, and to Elizabeth, his wife, the third part of the manor of Goldstanton, with its appurtenances, which Beatrice, who was the wife of Thomas de Gosehale, his late brother (*quondam fratris mei*) held in dower by the assignment of the said Thomas, her late husband. The witnesses are Thomas and Adam de Helles, Henry Attecrouch, Nicholas, William, and Thomas Saffery, Peter de Pedding (all well-known names in Ash), Thomas de Garwynton, Roger T. Kynnere, William Styward, Stephen le Groom, Andrew Coneyfer, &c. The seal is too much obliterated for us to distinguish the impression.*

The following charters by Sir John de Goshall it will be sufficient for us to indicate :—

* This same Walter de Goshall had a suit the following year, 21st of Edward III., against Thomas de Pedding, concerning the manor of Clivesend, Isle of Thanet. Rot. Pat. sub anno. The same roll, part 1, contains the exemplification of fine by John de Goshall for the manor of Goldstanton.

Carta J. de Goeshall Johanni Sherrene de Maneris de Olyves in Insula Thanet.—Cum sig. 14 Edward III. Harl. 78 D. 28.

Carta Johannis de Gosehale, fil Henrici de Gosehale, Mil. Stephano de Byrking de Messagio in Esshe. Sine sig. 16 E^a. III. 1344. (Harl. 78, D. 29.)

Carta J. de Goshale, Johannis Cope de terr. in vill de Esshe. Sine sig. Same date. (Harl. 78, D. 30.)

Carta J. de Gosehale, fil Henrici de Gosehale, Rogero de Henthorne et Julianæ uxori suæ de Messagio in Esshe cum sig. (merely a human figure). Same date. (Harl. 78, D. 31.)

Also, Carta Laurenti de Boklande Johanni de Gossehall de Terr. in Esshe juxta Sandwicum. Sine sig. Same date. (Harl. 76, C. 54.)

The above are principally interesting as a record of names of holders or occupiers of land in the parish of Ash, in the reign of Edward III.

We have seen from the charter of Walter de Goshall, just quoted, that, in 1348-9, his eldest surviving brother, John, was married to a lady named Elizabeth. This Elizabeth we believe to have been the daughter and heir of Sir John Grove, whose mutilated effigy in St. Peter's, Sandwich, was preserved from complete destruction by Mr. Boys, and is engraved in his "Collections." Upon the tomb to which it pertained were, in 1613, six shields displaying, 1, Grove; three leaves in bend, on a canton, three crescents, as on the shield of the effigy; 2, Septvans; 3, St. Ledger; 4, Hilpurton; 5, Isaac; and 6, Sand-

wich;—important materials for the pedigrees of all those families. Elizabeth survived her husband, who was dead in 1372, and was herself living in 1378, second of Richard II., when William Wyltshire gives a bond to Elizabeth, "quæ fuit uxor Johannis de Gosehale Militis" for £20.—(Harleian Charters, No. 80, I. 69.) In the same collection, and amongst the evidences of Combewell Abbey, preserved in the College of Arms, are numerous acquittances from "Elizabeth, who was the wife of John de Goshall, knight," or from "Elizabeth, Lady of Goshall," for different sums from various persons farming the manor of Elmes, or Nelmes, in Ash, next Sandwich, to which we have already alluded in our second chapter; and here our knowledge of the family of Goshall terminates. The heiress, daughter, it is presumed, of the aforesaid Sir John and Elizabeth, and named after her mother, married Thomas St. Nicholas.* Of her uncles, Henry, Walter, and Robert, if they were her uncles, we have not at present found the slightest trace, or the existence of any collateral branches. We find from the extract from the Lieger Book of Davington that the Goshalls were great benefactors to the Priory there; and the cartulary of that house, if still in existence, may yet enlighten us on some important particulars.

* This opinion is greatly strengthened by the fact, that in the list of persons commemorated in the Lieger book of Davington we find "Domina *Elizabetha St. Nicholas* una benefactorū," as well as "Domina Elizabetha de Goshaule," and "Matilda de Goshall una benef."

We have done all we can with the materials within our reach and in the time at our disposal, and must now turn our attention to the family of

ST. NICHOLAS,

into which the elder line of Goshall merged, towards the close of the 14th century.*

Certainly about the last place in the world where we might have expected to find an elaborate pedigree

* The arms of St. Nicholas, ermine, a chief, quarterly, or and gules (*vide* woodcut at the head of this chapter), deserve an essay to themselves; and we regret that our space will not allow us to do more than briefly notice the most important facts connected with them. Camden, in his "Remains," has pointed out the similarity of them to those of the families of Peckham and Parrock, and given them as an example of the bearing of coat armour derived from that of a feudal lord; that portion of the shield called "the chief" in heraldry, being in this instance the coat of the great family of Say. The origin of the three families, St. Nicholas, Peckham, and Parrock, is generally considered to have been a common one, but which of them may lay claim to the possession of the earliest designation has yet to be discovered. Archbishop Peckham, who gave the church of St. Nicholas, Ash, to Wingham College, in 1286, is said to have been the son of humble parents in the County of Sussex; while the St. Nicholases appear to have been settled as early as the reign of Henry III. in Essex. They afterwards are found seated at St. Nicholas Court, in the Isle of Thanet; but whether they gave their name to, or derived it from that property, has not been ascertained. If the latter, it is most probable that they were a branch of the Peckhams, and that the elevation of an obscure member of that family to the Archbishopric of Canterbury was the prelude to their importance in the county of Kent. Whether the arms of Say betoken sub-infeodation or collateral descent, further research may determine. The Parrocks bore a chess-rook in the first quarter, as a difference, and must therefore have been an offshoot from the parent stock.

of the old Kentish family of St. Nicholas, was in a History of the County of Leicestershire. Nevertheless, although the descent of it from Goshall has been but briefly and vaguely mentioned by Philipot and Hasted, and the Visitations of Kent contain only disjointed records of three or four generations during the 16th and 17th centuries; the late Mr. Nichols, in consequence of the incident of a match between a younger son of that family with a Leicestershire lady, has presented us, in his voluminous and valuable History of the latter county, with a pedigree from the time of Edward III., down to his own time. As this Leicestershire lady was the Lady Priscilla Grey, daughter of Anthony, Earl of Kent, it is still more extraordinary that so little trouble should have been taken by Kentish historians and genealogists in later days, respecting the descent of her husband, particularly as it is an exceedingly good one.

Mr. Nichols's Pedigree professes to be compiled from information received from the family, and evidences in their possession. We shall therefore follow it when not contradicted by researches of our own, and hope to illustrate it in several important parts from unquestionable authority. Mr. Nichols heads his Pedigree with a Sir Roger St. Nicholas of St. Nicholas Court, Isle of Thanet, living, apparently, about the time of Edward II. or Edward III., from whom descended Thomas and Sir John, the latter of whom was living ninth of

Richard II., 1386.* As early, however, as 1213, we find in the Close Rolls the mention of a Lawrence de St. Nicholas, who is described as attorney for the nephew of Cardinal Gale.† We admit we have no evidence to prove that he was a member of this family; but the name of Lawrence is met with early in the Pedigree, and the probabilities are in favour of the assumption.‡ To come to matters of fact:—In the nineteenth of Edward III., 1345, the King's writ was issued, "Dilectis et fidelibus suis Petro Hayward, *Thomæ de Sancto Nicholao* et Willielmo de Manston," in custody of the ports in the Isle of Thanet.§ This Thomas St. Nicholas was apparently dead in 1350, for in that year, on the death of Sir John Gifford of Bures,‖ it was found that Thomas, *son of Thomas*

* *Vide* Note, p. 364.

† "Rot. Claus. 15 John. Rex, W. Thes. G. t. R. can̄ ariis tc. Libate de thē nro Laurencio de Sco Nicho. pcuratori nepotis dni Gale Cardinal XX m̄ quas ei debemur de hoc anno sec̄ fi pcipum T. Epō Osberne et aliis Romanis."

‡ In the 20th of Edward III. a Lawrence St. Nicholas paid aid for the making of the Black Prince a Knight, as holder of one quarter of a knight's fee at Selgrove in Seldwich, Faversham hundred, which he held of the honor of Gloucester.—Hasted, vol. ii., p. 786.

§ Rymer Fœdera, vol. iii., part 1.

‖ Bury, in Essex. The St. Nicholas family had certainly early connections with this county, and we therefore think it worth notice, that in the 44th of Henry III. the name of Senicla (a form in which we find that of St. Nicholas in the wills and on the tombs of the family) occurs in some pleadings between William and Gilbert, sons of William fil Senicla of Dunmowe. Senicla, the father of William, having held 12 acres of land at Westinghales payne, and 2 sold in Brimfield. Abbrev. Plac. H. III. No. 44, Essex.

St. Nicholas, was his (Sir John's) next heir, and that the said Thomas was, at that time, of the age of twelve years. This Thomas, afterwards knighted, died in 1375, and by his will we find that he left a widow named Elizabeth, and three children, viz.: a son named Lawrence, and two daughters, Elizabeth and Agnes.* These alone are named in his will; but it would seem that he must have had another son, whose name we believe to have been John, as we shall show presently. Elizabeth, his widow, is presumed to have been the daughter and heir of Sir John Goshall, by Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Sir John Grove, as we have intimated under Goshall. Of the daughters, Elizabeth and Agnes, we have no further account; but, Lawrence de St. Nicholas is mentioned in Dover Plea Rolls, in 1401; and we find he had a daughter named Johanna, who married, first, Salam, or Salamon, at Berton; and secondly, Richard Finneux. He is said, also, to have had a son named Nicholas—dead in 1446—who left a

* Printed in Nichols; Wills. A "Thomas, son of Sir Roger St. Nicholas, was sued by the Abbot of St. Augustines, as his ward, for refusing to marry Margaret, daughter of Thomas Fagg, '*Chivaler*,' to whom the Abbot had engaged him. Die Lunæ proximo post Festum Purificationis Beatæ Mariæ anno Ricardi Regis Secundi nono. Regist. Cœnob. S. Augus. penes R. Farmer, D.D., (Nichols, Hist. Leicest.) Assuming the correctness of this extract, this Thomas could not have been the Thomas whose will we have just quoted, and who died in 1375, and we must therefore presume that the latter had a brother named Roger, also a knight, who was dead in the 9th of Richard II., 1386, and left a son Thomas, in ward of the Abbot aforesaid.

sole daughter and heiress, named Christian.* Having cleared off this branch, we return to the John who we imagine was an elder brother of Lawrence, for this reason:—Thomas Senyclas or St. Nicholas of Thorne, who married Julian, daughter and heir of Nicholas Manston, by Eleanor, daughter and heir of Edward Haute,† in his will, dated 1474, names his mother, Bennett (*i. e.* Benedicta), but not his father. In a pedigree by Vincent (Philipot's MS., Coll. Arm., Nos. 26-27, p. 37), which commences with the father of this Thomas, the Christian name, John, has been added in pencil by the younger Vincent. Whether we may rely on this evidence or not, as to his Christian name, we cannot doubt his immediate descent from Sir Thomas St. Nicholas, as we find his sons bequeathing estates, which they could only have derived from the heir of Sir Thomas.

* Close Roll of 25th of Henry VI., 1446, by which it appears that Christian St. Nicholas, Lady Prioress of the Minories without Aldgate, was daughter and heir of Nicholas St. Nicholas of St. Nicholas Court, Thanet, and Thomas St. Nicholas is named in the same record.—Weever, p. 265.

† There is some strange confusion or error about this lady in Weever's Monuments. At page 267, we read—"Here lieth Thomas St. Nicholas, who married Joane, daughter of Edmund Haute of Manston, died . . . , had issue Thomas St. Nicholas, here interred." Also, "Thomæ Sayen Nicolas Armiger et Johanne consortis sue quæ obiit XX . . . . . Anno Domini Millesimo CCCCLXXIV. quorum animabs propitietur Deus. Amen." Now it is quite clear that the Thomas St. Nicholas, who died in 1474, married *Julianna, grand*-daughter of Edmund Haute, and not *Johanna* his *daughter*. Vide her will in 1493.

One of these sons was named John, we may fairly assume after him; he being himself baptized John, according to the prevalent fashion of the times, after his maternal grandfather, John de Goshall. The other, we have seen, was named Thomas, after his paternal grandfather. We will clear off the descent from this Thomas (the younger son, as we take it, of John and Bennet), first, as the line in which we are most interested descends from the elder, John.

By Julian Manston his wife, who survived him, we find he left four sons: Roger, Thomas, Richard, and John; and perhaps one daughter, Eleanor,* married to . . . . Aucher. Roger St. Nicholas, the eldest son, died in 1484, seized of the manor of Thorne, leaving an only daughter, named Elizabeth, married to John Dynely of Worcestershire. Thomas, second son, died 1493. In his will he mentions Katharine, his wife, and Elizabeth his daughter. Of these we have no further knowledge, nor have we met with any mention of Richard or of John, later than in the will of Julianna St. Nicholas, their mother, who appears to have died shortly after her son Thomas, her will being made 7th of July, eighth of Henry VII. (1493), and

* In Add. MS. Brit. Mus. No. 5,520, Henry Aucher, son of Robert Aucher, is set down as having married . . . . d. of *John* St. Nicholas, of Thanet, the brother of this Thomas. Thomas certainly does not call Eleanor his daughter in his will; he simply names her "Eleanor Aucher." Nor does the pedigree give the Christian name of the wife of Henry Aucher, who may have married one of the two daughters of John St. Nicholas, mentioned in his will without their names.

proved on the 31st of January following, 1493-4. In that will she describes herself as late the wife of Thomas St. Nicholas, Esq.; mentions her son, John St. Nicholas, but not Richard (who was probably dead), and Edmund Haute, her grandfather. She died seized of the Manors of Wormsell, Shelving, and Goshall; and as we find that Henry, eldest son and successor of John Dynely of Charlton, about the latter end of the reign of Elizabeth, conveyed his right in Thorne, Manston Court, Goshall, and Powcies, to Sir John Roper, afterwards Baron Teynham; it is quite clear that Elizabeth, daughter of Roger St. Nicholas, and mother of Henry Dynely, must have inherited nearly the whole property of Thomas, her grandfather, and therefore survived her uncle, John, and her cousin, Elizabeth.*

With her, then, the name of St. Nicholas expired in this branch of the family. We now return to John, eldest son of John and Bennett St. Nicholas. He married Margaret, daughter and heir of Simon de Campania; inherited from his father the Manor of Bures or Bury in Essex, the old property of the Giffords, to which his grandfather, Sir Thomas, had been found heir; died in 1462, and was buried at Ash, in the Chapel of St. Thomas the Martyr. By

* Dynely quarters St. Nicholas, bringing in, 1. Manston; 2. Haute; 3. Shelving; 4. Argent, a lion rampant gules crowned or, Thorne; 5. a lion rampant crowned, between three mullets (no colours); 6. Argent three leaves in bend proper, on a canton azure three crescents or, Grove.—Ped. Dynely, Add. MSS. Brit. Mus. 5,507.

his will, dated 18th June, 1462, it appears he left four sons: Thomas, Richard, Robert, and Roger, all under age at that time; and two daughters, unmarried. His son Thomas was to have the Manor of Bury, co. Essex; Richard, certain lands in Ash and Wingham; and Roger, those at Billericay. He mentions his sister Elizabeth, married to William Edwards, and Thomas his brother.* Of Robert, the fourth son, we hear no more; Roger, the third son, married Dorothy, daughter of Walter Roberts of Cranbrook (living 1522),† and widow of Simon Lynch,‡ 19 Henry VII., 1504; but we have no knowledge of any issue. Richard St. Nicholas appears as a witness to a charter, twenty-third Henry VII., 1508; but we cannot undertake to decide whether it was the second son of John of Ash, or his cousin Richard, son of Thomas of Thorne. At all events, our information fails us as to any descent from the three younger brothers. The eldest, Thomas, married a daughter and co-heir of Apuldrefield,§ by whom he

* Prerog. Office, Cant.

† Will of her father, Walter, dated 11th September, and proved 13th October, 1522.—MS. Coll. Arm. B. P. A. vi. p. 485.

‡ This Simon Lynch would seem to be the eldest son of William Lynch, of Cranbrook, who names him in his will dated April 28, 1480. He has been confounded with another Simon who died in 1573, and whose widow, consequently, could never have been re-married to Roger St. Nicholas.

§ *William* de Apuldrefield, according to some pedigrees. We doubt, however, her being the daughter of William. In his will, proved April, 1487, he mentions his wife Mildred, and his brother Richard, and "remainder to Elyn Brayne and the heirs of her body;"

had John, and certainly another son, named Roger or Thomas. John, the eldest, afterwards knighted, is said to have married a daughter of Walter Roberts of Cranbrook,* by whom he had an only daughter and heir, Anne, who married John Baker, Esq., of Norfolk, to whom she carried the manor of Bury. Of this latter fact and descent, the best collateral evidence exists in the coat of the Baker family, whose paternal arms are quartered with St. Nicholas, Thorne, Gifford of Bures, Lenham, Apuldrefield, Avranches and Champion or Campania, in perfect accordance with the descent aforesaid.

We come now to the last hitch in this pedigree. We have ventured to state that Thomas St. Nicholas, who married the heir of Apuldrefield, had certainly a second son, named Roger or Thomas. Our only proof at present of this assertion, is in the arms borne by the descendants of this Roger, the earliest of his family, who appears in the Visitations and Pedigrees

but no daughter, unless Elyn was such, and who, in that case, was living as wife or widow of Brayne in 1487.

* Sister of Dorothy, who married his uncle, Roger. This appears rather unlikely. In the pedigrees of Roberts, two daughters of Walter, *Mary* and Dorothy, are set down as wives of "—— St. Nicholas," no Christian name or other indication being given us whereby they could be identified; and Philipot names Roger as the husband, of Mary in his MS. marked Mascle, p. 39^{b}. It is clear, however, from her father's will, quoted above, that *Dorothy* was the wife of *Roger* in 1522; and in the same document his daughter *Mercy* (not Mary) is also mentioned as the wife of a St. Nicholas *then living*, but, unfortunately, not identified by his baptismal appellation.

in the College of Arms. He is there stated to have been the son of a *Thomas* St. Nicholas, to have married (circa 1530?) Jane, daughter of Vincent Engham of Sandwich, and to have had by her a son, Vincent, born in 1531, and who married Marion, daughter of Edward Brockhill of Allington, Esq., and widow of Sir Thomas Harfleet; Vincent St. Nicholas died 20th of August, 1589, and was buried in Ash Church.* The arms of this Vincent and of all his immediate descendants, display the coat of St. Nicholas quartering that of Apuldrefield. (*Vide* engraving at the head of this chapter, copied from a Pedigree in the Coll. of Arms, Vincent 145, and our description of the brasses remaining on the grave-stones of the St. Nicholas family, in the north transept of Ash Church, p. 239.) Now, as Thomas St. Nicholas of Bury, Co. of Essex, the father of John St. Nicholas, whose heiress, Elizabeth, conveyed that manor to Baker, is the only individual who, we find, married an heiress of the Apuldrefields; it follows, as a matter of course, that Roger, the father of Vincent, must have been either a son or grandson of that Thomas; and such dates as we can rely upon, induce us to think he was the latter. In St. Lawrance Church, Thanet, there is the grave-stone of a Thomas St. Nicholas, who married Joane or Jane Manston, and had issue Thomas St.

* Marion Harfleet was his second wife. By his first, who does not appear in the Visitations, he had a daughter named Sylvester, whose second husband was Henry Harfleet the elder, of Hill's Court, Ash. *Vide* p. 342.

Nicholas, who is buried in the same chapel. The date was gone in Weever's time; but the Johanna, daughter of Roger Manston, whom we believe to be the person above-named, died in 1499.* It does not absolutely follow, that because no other children are named but Thomas, buried beside her, that Joane St. Nicholas might not have had another son named Roger (as usual, after his maternal grandfather), and the probabilities are in favour of this being the missing link in this line of the pedigree of St. Nicholas of Ash.

Henceforward the Visitations and the Registers are our safe guides. By Marion, his second wife, Vincent St. Nicholas had five sons and one daughter; John, baptized December 24th, 1565, died an infant; Thomas, baptized August 27, 1567; another John, baptized November 28th, 1568; Timothy, who died young; and Samuel, who only lived a year. The daughter Mary, called Mercy in the monumental inscription, was their eldest child, being baptized March 25th, 1563-4, and

* Peter le Neve, in his "Church Notes," 1603-1624, says, simply, "A gravestone of Thomas Sainct Nicholas, who married *Jane Manston.* Had issue Thomas St. Nicholas, who is buried in the same chapel" (Add. MSS. Brit. Mus. No. 5,479); contradicting Weever, who calls her daughter of Edmund *Haute,* of Manston.

We believe the Thomas who married Joan Manston to have been Thomas St. Nicholas, of Ore, near Feversham. In the church there, were the arms of Lenham, quartering St. Nicholas; and in a window an armed figure, with a tabard of the same, kneeling.—(Philipot's Ch. Notes, Harleian MSS. No. 3,917, and Philipot P. d. 20. Coll. Arms.)

married the Rev. Anthony Field, Rector of Chillenden, Co. Kent.* Thomas, the second son, alone survived and preserved the name of St. Nicholas. He was twice married, and died in 1626. By his first wife, Dorothea, daughter of William Tilghman, who died in childbed, September 18th, 1605, he had Deborah, baptized August 20th,† 1598; Susan,‡ December 7th, 1599; Dorothy, April 5th, 1601;§ Thomas, October 3rd, 1602; John, March 25th, 1603-4; and Vincent, baptized two days after the death of his mother, September 20th, 1605, and who only survived her a few months, being buried March 1st in the following year. By his second wife, Elizabeth Woodward, he had three sons: Timothy, Samuel, and Thomas, and one daughter, Elizabeth, married to Edward Mills of Westbere.‖ Thomas St. Nicholas of Ash, the eldest son by the first wife Dorothea Tilghman,

* In the will of Marion St. Nicholas, of Chillenden, widow, dated 23rd June, 1604, and proved 1st October following, she mentions "my daughter Brett." But there can be no doubt that Mary married Mr. Field, as we find her brother Thomas speaking of her as "My dear and loving sister, Mrs. Field—her reverend husband, Anthony Field."—(Will of Thomas St. N., proved 1st Jan. 1626-7.)

† Married Jan. 4, 1617-18, to German Major. (Ash Reg.) "My daughter, Deborah Major."—(Will of Thos. St. N. *ut supra.*)

‡ He does not mention his daughter Susanna in his will; she was probably, therefore, deceased.

§ Married Oct. 3, 1622, Edward Pordage. (Ash Reg.) "My daughter Dorothy Pordage."—(Will of Thos. *ut supra*)

‖ Visitation, D. 18, p. 139, Coll. Arms. She was unmarried at the time of her father's death. "My youngest daughter, Elizabeth St. Nicholas."—(Will, *ut supra.*)

also married two wives, and died in 1668. By his first, Susannah, daughter of William Copley, of Wadsworth, Co. York,* he had one son, Thomas, baptized October 1st, 1637; and one daughter, Elizabeth, who married first, Wittingham Wood, Esq., and secondly, John Pratt, of Hinckley, Co. Leicester. Thomas, his son and heir, married Elizabeth, daughter of . . . . . Plomley, who died 1671,† by whom he had issue Vincent and Thomas, and was living in 1668, when his name appears for the last time in the parish accounts for Hoden. Vincent left an only daughter and heir, named Grace. Of Thomas, baptized May 27th, 1667, the last of the St. Nicholases of Ash, we have found no further record.

By his second wife, Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Croke, of Well Place, Co. Oxon,‡ to whom he was married at St. Dunstan's, London, February 17th,

* Visitation, D. 18, p. 137, Coll. Arms.

† Elizabeth, *widow* of Thomas St. Nicholas, buried at Ash, Dec. 3rd, 1671.

‡ She was his kinswoman, the daughter of his great-aunt. "My aunt, Mrs. Bennett Croke, widow, the natural mother of the wife of my son, Thomas St. Nicholas."—Will of Thomas St. Nicholas the elder, before quoted. On a flat stone in the north aisle at Knoll, Co. Warwick, are the arms of St. Nicholas, quartering Apuldrefield; and in addition to a long inscription in Latin, the following is round the borders of the stone:—"In this cabinet is layd up the body of Elizabeth, late wife of Thomas St. Nicholas of Ash, in the County of Kent, Gent., daughter of Henry Crooke, of Well Place, in the County of Oxon, Esq., who lived as meet helper with her husband six years, and had issue by him four sons; deceased, March 9th, 1631. Mat. v. 17."

1624, Thomas St. Nicholas had issue four sons, as we learn from the monumental inscription in Dugdale's Warwickshire, page 702; but their names are not mentioned, and we know nothing more about them.

We must now return to John, the second son of Thomas and Dorothea. He also married twice. His first wife was Ethelreda, or Audrey, daughter of Basil Good, of Shilton, Co. Warwick, by whom he had three sons, Timothy, Vincent, and Thomas, and three daughters, Abigail, Marie, and Elizabeth. Of these only two survived, Timothy and Marie. Timothy married first Anne, daughter of Christopher Copley, of Wadsworth, Co. York, who died 1664, leaving one son, named Basil, who died without issue; secondly, Elizabeth More, of Linley, who died June 10th, 1698.*

Marie married first Captain Morick, and secondly, Henry Watts, an Independent minister, of Weddington, Co. Warwick.

Audrey St. Nicholas died November 11th, 1654, and her husband John married, secondly, the Lady Priscilla Grey, daughter of Anthony, Earl of Kent, who died 1657, without issue, and survived her forty-one years, dying in 1698, at the advanced age of ninety-five. A long and elaborate biography of him will be found in Mr. Nichols's History of Leicestershire; but it con-

* Mon. In. North aisle, Monk's Kirby, in which Timothy is described as "an affable, grave, wise, and useful man in his generation."

tains no interest to justify our even introducing an abridgement of it here.*

Timothy, son of Marie St. Nicholas and Henry Watts, assumed the name of St. Nicholas in or before 1724, in which year, as Steward to the Duke of Kent, he is styled Timothy St. Nicholas of Burbach, Esq.; and the male line of the St. Nicholases of Ash seems to have been extinguished in the person of Thomas, younger son of Thomas St. Nicholas and Elizabeth Plomley before mentioned, but of whose death and burial we have found no record.

LEVERICK.

This ancient family has been the most neglected of any connected with the history of Sandwich and Ash. Although not utterly extinct before the commencement of the sixteenth century, and therefore within reach of the Visitations, not a scrap of pedigree is to be found in them, save and except the mention of a match with Monins of Waldershare; and neither Vincent nor Philipot, Glover nor Brooke, has, either intentionally or accidentally, collected any genealogical information respecting it.

* He was a Puritan minister and volunteer lecturer amongst the Independents; was nominated to the Rectory of Lutterworth, by the Parliamentary Sequestrators, and ejected by the Bartholomew Act in 1662, when he retired to Burbach, where he lost his wife, the Lady Priscilla, and lived in retirement till his death. He was the author of the History of Baptism, 1678, and several other theological works. His father-in-law, Anthony Grey, was also an Independent Minister, Rector of Burbach; and on his succession to the Earldom, refused to quit his ministry.

Mr. Boys, in his "Collections," while he professes himself disappointed at not being able to gather more particulars respecting the family of Sandwich, takes no heed of that of Leverick; and we have been left, therefore, to make the most we can of the few traces we have been able to discover of it in the Rolls and Charters of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. The origin of the name is left entirely to our imagination. We naturally turn to the Saxon Leuric and Leofric, so many examples of which are to be found in the early annals of England, and some particularly connected with this corner of Kent; but there is also in Domesday mention of a Loveraz existing at that period in Wiltshire, and Sir Richard Colt Hoare, in his elaborate History of that county, gives us a pedigree of a family of that name from William and Odo de Loveraz, *temp.* Henry II., to Stephen and his wife Alicia, 5th of Edward III., the descendants of whom appear to have spelt the name indifferently Loeras, Lueraz, Loverick, and Leverick.

John Leverick, of Crockerton, Co. Wilts, was living 30th of Edward III., and Alicia Leverick, daughter of William Levericke, of Shropham, Co. Norfolk, is mentioned in a Roll of the time of Edward I. Lovericks and Lavericks are also to be found in Southamptonshire, Dorsetshire, and even Cumberland. Whether the Lovericks and Levericks of Sandwich were a branch of the Wiltshire family, we cannot presume to say; but, in an old MS. book of arms in the Heralds' College, we find those of Sir John Leverick of Carne,

(Co. Dorset)—Argent, on a chevron sable; three leopards' heads, or; which are identically the same as those borne by the Levericks in whom we are interested. Still we cannot connect even this John of Carne in any other way with the Kentish line, or show that he was one of the Wiltshire family; and we must for the present, therefore, rest content with pointing out the above facts to the reader.

The earliest mention we have found of a Loverick of Sandwich is in 1281, when a Salamon Loverick appears a witness to a charter.

We next find a Henry Leverick and Margery his wife parties in a final concord with John de Goshall, respecting land in Ash near Sandwich, 34th of Edward I., A.D. 1306.* John Leverick was Mayor of Sandwich 1346, 18th of Edward III. Thomas Loverick was Member of Parliament for Sandwich 43rd of Edward III., 1371, and 1st of Richard II., 1377.† Contemporary with him were Salomon Leverick (spelt Leverske in Lewis's "Thanet"), who with John Denis, Mayor of Sandwich, and others, was attached to answer to a plea of trespass, by Robert de Stokes, Sheriff of Kent, prosecutor for the King, and not having made a sufficient defence, was committed to jail, 1369. And Sir John Leverick of Ash, who married Joan, daughter of John Septvans, and whose effigy, we believe, lies on the north side of the high chancel at

* Lansdown MS. 268, p. 293.

† See his deed of gift to Gilbert Septvans in 1370, page 327.

Ash within the altar rails.* At all events, Sir John was living about this period. We have next a Thomas Leverick, Mayor of Sandwich 1412-1416, and contemporary with him Sir William Leverick of Ash, husband of Emma, daughter of John Septvans of Ash, and who with his wife were buried in St. Mary's, Sandwich, to which they had been great benefactors, *temp.* Henry IV.; and following them a Henry Leverick, M.P. for Sandwich, 7th Henry V.

Not one of the above can we venture to affiliate!

Not the least indication have we found of the affinity of any one of them to the other, and it is only some fifty or sixty years later that we arrive at anything resembling genealogical detail. From the will of Johanna Leverick, widow of William Manston, of the parish of Herne, proved in 1475, we gather that she had three brothers, Anthony, Henry, and Thomas Leverick, but no hint of their parentage. She names "John Loveryk," son of her brother Anthony, and Johanna, daughter of Henry, both living at that date, as also her own son, John Manston. Her brother Thomas proved her will, but of him we hear no more. Her brother Henry died in 1487, and by his will we learn that he was twice married. The first wife's name was Katharine, and the second, who survived him, Elizabeth. He names his daughter Susannah, then living a nun at Sheppey, but does not indicate of which wife she was the issue, nor does he mention

* *Vide* page 206.

the "Johanna, daughter of Henry," named in the will of his sister. Anthony Leverick of Herne, her elder (?) brother, married Constance, daughter of ——— Woolbright, according to Philipot; but in the Pedigree of Monins set down as daughter and heir of Turberville. By her he had John, named above, who must have died unmarried or without issue, and Pernel, who, as daughter and heir of her father, became the wife of Edward Monins of Waldershare. Anthony Leverick died October 16th, 1510, and with his wife Constantia was buried at Herne, when the name appears to have been extinguished in this county.

PARAMORE.

Of this family no trace has yet been discovered earlier than the close of the fifteenth century. The name, spelt indifferently Paramore, Paramour, and Paramor, is so remarkable, that had any persons of consideration borne it in England previous to that period, it could scarcely, we think, have escaped notice. The early Kentish topographers and genealogists are perfectly silent as to its origin, and we are inclined to believe that the founder of the family in this country was some French or Italian merchant, who settled at Sandwich during the reign of Henry VII. Perhaps the very Thomas Paramore who heads the earliest pedigree in Philipot's MSS., and who is therein described as "of Paramore Streete in Ashe prope Sandwicum," and having by his wife, "Cecilia filia et heres Hambroke," two sons: William, who died

without issue, and Henricus, married to Alice Fornell, and living 10th of Henry VIII., 1525-6, as we have already stated, p. 141. This Henry had a son John, who, by Jane, daughter of Thomas Beake of Wickham Breaux, had issue Thomas Paramor of Fordwich, Mayor of Canterbury, to whom a mural monument was erected in the Church of St. Mary, Minster, Isle of Thanet; * and underneath the kneeling effigies of the mayor and his wife the following inscription: "Neere to this place lie enterred the bodies of Thomas Paramore, Esq., sometime Mayor of the citie of Canterburie, and Anne his first wife, by whom he had issue three sons and two daughters, viz.: Michael and Thomas, who died in his lifetime,† and Henry surviving, who married Marie, the daughter and heir of Tho. Garth of London, Esq.; Jane, wife to Henry Saunders of Canterbury, Esq., and Bennet, married to Thom. Foach of Wotton, Gent. His second wife was Marie, the widowe of Tho. Garth of London, Esq.; he departed this life the vij of July, A.D. 1621, resigning his soule to God that gave it."

* There are two coats of arms of Paramour: Paramour of St. Nicholas, Thanet, bearing azure, a fess embattled between three etoiles, or, crest, a cubit arm, vested azure, cuffed argent; the hand proper, holding an etoile of six points wavy, or.—Granted by Cooke, Clarenceux, 1585: and Paramour of Ash, a similar coat, the fess being counter-embattled, and for crest, two arms embowed similarly vested azure, cuffed argent, and supporting an etoile, or.—Granted by Camden, Clarenceux, May 1616.

† Michael died "about the age of 9 years." Thomas married Ann, daughter of Henry Franklyn of Throwley, and died without issue, September 13th, 1615. (Mon. In. St. Magdalen's Church, Canterbury.)

Under his effigy are the following verses:—

CANTERB.—Thanks, Isle of Thanet, for this Champion
Of's never dying name, my chiefe glorie;
His Trophie hath made me companion
Unto the proudest by his Victorie.

THANET.—Indeed thy countrie and unpeopled plaine,
Unworthie were his wit and employment,
And gladly do receive him home againe
Resting contented with his monument.

We have transcribed these lines, certainly not for their beauty or their pathos, but because we believe that Canterbury, in thanking the Isle of Thanet for a champion, alludes to a singular trial by battle which was to come off in Tothill Fields, the 18th of June, 1571, and is told at great length by the old chronicler Stow. The subject in dispute was a certain manor and demaine lands belonging thereunto, in the Isle of Harty, belonging to the Isle of Sheppey in Kent.*

* The manor of Harty, otherwise Sayes Court, was held in the reign of Henry III. by the family of De Campania under John de St. John. John and Mary de Campania, temp. Edward III., left three daughters and co-heirs, one of whom, Thomasine, married Thomas Chevin of Sholand in Newnham. His descendant, John Chevin, 3rd of Elizabeth, sold "the Mote," a parcel of this manor, to Mr. Paramour, by the description of a manor or messuage, 60 acres of land and 50 acres of marsh, with the appurtenances, in the parish of St. Thomas the Apostle, in the Isle of Harty, of the fee of William (Paulet), Marquis of Winchester (great grandson of John de St. John by Constance Poynings), capital lord of it; but it being subsequently alleged by the said John Chevin that he was under age at the time of the above-mentioned alienation, and that he had passed it away again to John Kyme and Simon Low, they in the 13th year of the same reign brought out their writ of right.

Simon Low and John Kyme were plaintiffs, and had a writ of right against Thomas Paramore, who offered to defend his right by battle, a challenge which they accepted, and offered to prove by battle that Paramore had no right or title to the said manor and lands. Hereupon, says the chronicler, the said Thomas Paramore brought before the Judges of the Common Pleas at Westminster one George Thorne, a big, broad, strong-set fellow; and the plaintiffs brought Henry Nailor, master of defence and servant to the Earl of Leicester, a proper slender man, and not so tall as the other. Thorne cast down a gauntlet, which Nailor took up. On the Sunday before the battle was to take place, however, "the matter was stayed," and the parties agreed that Paramore, being in possession, should have the land, being bound in £500 to consider the plaintiffs as, upon hearing the matter, the judges might award. The Queen's Majesty, we are told, was the taker up of the matter in this wise. It was thought good that, for Paramore's assurance, the order should be kept touching the combat in every particular, except the combat itself! The lists were set out, double railed, a stage set up for the judges, and scaffolds erected one above the other, for people to stand and behold. Behind were two tents, one for Nailor, the other for Thorne. Thorne was there in the morning timely; Nailor about seven of the clock came through London apparelled in a doublet and gallygascoine breeches, all of crimson satin, cut and raised, a hat of black velvet with a red feather and

band, before him drums and fifes playing. The gauntlet that Thorne had cast down borne before the said Nailor upon a sword's point, and his baston (a staff of an ell long, made taperwise, tipt with horn) with his shield of hard leather was borne after him by Askam, a yeoman of the Queen's guard. He was brought to his tent by Sir Jerome Bowes, Thorne being already in his with Sir Henry Cheney.* The Court of Common Pleas arrived at ten o'clock. The Lord Chief Justice and his two associates took their seats. Low was solemnly called to come in, or else to lose his writ of right, it having been previously arranged that he should make default. The champions were next called for, and Sir Jerome Bowes led in Nailor by the hand, who "curtseyed" to the judges first with one leg and then with the other, and went through the farce of stripping for the combat, pulling off his nether stocks (stockings) and appearing bare-foot and bare-legged, save his silk scavilonions (drawers) to the ancles, and his doublet sleeves tied up above the elbow, and bareheaded. Sir Henry Cheney next led in George Thorne in like manner. Proclamation was made by the Justices in the Queen's name that no person of what estate or condition he be, should be so hardy as to give any token or sign, by word or look, to either prover or defender, that might give one the

* Henry, Lord Cheney, at that time was lord of the manor of Harty, and with the consent of Jane his wife sold it subsequently to Richard Thornhill and Walston Dixie, Esqs.

advantage over the other, or suffer either of them to take and avail themselves of any of their weapons, &c., under pain of forfeiture of lands, tenements, goods, chattels, and imprisonment of their bodies, and making fine and ransom at the Queen's pleasure. The prover was then sworn in form as followeth: "Hear you Justices, that I have this day neither eat, drunk, nor have upon me either bone, stone, or glass, or any enchantment, sorcery, or witchcraft, where through the power of the Word of God might be inleased or diminished, and the Devil's power increased, and that my appeal is true, so help me God and his saints, and by this book." The solemn mockery was then terminated by the Lord Chief Justice rehearsing the matter in dispute, and the proceedings taken upon it, and adjudging the land to Paramore for default of appearance in Low, dismissing the champions, and acquitting the sureties of their bonds. Upon being desired to return Thorne his gauntlet, Nailor answered that his lordship might command him in anything, but that he would not willingly render the gauntlet unless Thorne would win it, and challenged him to play with him half a score blows, to show some pastime to the Lord Chief Justice and the others there assembled; but Thorne replied that he came to fight and not to play. Then the Lord Chief Justice, commending Nailor for his valiant courage, commanded them both quietly to depart the field—no doubt to the bitter disappointment of the good citizens of London there assembled to the num-

ber of 4,000, who it is to be supposed were not in the secret of this child-like make-believe exhibition. If we are correct in identifying the defendant in this case with the champion "whose never-dying name was the chief glory" of Canterbury, we must say that old Durovernum was not difficult to please in those days, if the victory of a challenger who did not even fight by proxy was considered an achievement to be proud of.

A John Paramor of the parish of St. James, *Isle of Harty*, yeoman, in his will, proved June 15th, 1585, names his uncle Thomas Paramor, but does not enable us to connect him with the mayor. He seems, however, to have lived on the disputed estate, and left a wife named Agnes, and a daughter Alice.

The mayor had a brother Henry, who died before him, and bequeathed to him Shreeves Court.

Henry, the only surviving son of Thomas of Fordwich, died in 1646, leaving by his wife, Mary Garth, a son Thomas, who died 1652. A branch of the original stock, however, remained and flourished at Ash, in the street to which they had given their name. The will of Thomas Paramore, of Ash, yeoman, was proved March 9th, 1559-60, in which he mentions his sons Symon, Raymond, John, Henry, and Thomas, Robert Paramore of Worde, and his messuage at Paramore Street in Ash.

This Thomas Paramore is called cousin by Thomas Harfleet, alias At-Chequer, in 1555; but his exact place in the pedigree has not been ascertained. His

son Henry, we presume, is the Henry Paramore of Ash, whose will was proved 25th May, 1600; in which he mentions his wife Joan, and a sister married to Edward Purday. Thomas Paramor of Ash, probably his younger brother, was overseer of the will of Stephen Petley of Dover, 2nd March, 1594. It is this Thomas Paramor, most probably, whose name we find so often in the earliest parish accounts, from 1600 to 1608; in which latter year, he was churchwarden. At the same time, the Parish Cess-Books make mention of a Richard and a Bartholomew Paramore, and a John Paramore of Worde; the latter, apparently, one of the six sons of Robert Paramor of Worde and Wilmot his wife, named in his will, proved May 19th, 1579; the other five being Stephen, William, Thomas, Nicholas and Richard. Bartholomew appears to have been a son of Saphir Paramore of Eastry and Stattenboro'. Bartholomew's eldest son was named Peter. Thomas Paramor, the churchwarden, died in January, 1609-10, and his son Joshua, in 1635. His burial is the last but three of the family of Paramour entered in the registers at Ash. They appear about this date to have died out here, some of them having fallen into poverty, and being in the receipt of parish relief. The heirs female of the Stattenboro' and Eastry branches carried the property into the families of Sanders, Dilmot, Fuller, Boys of Sandwich, and Boteler of Eastry.

The following are all the entries of this family to be found in the registers at Ash :—

BAPTISMS.

John, son of Edward Paramore, 18th July, 1575.
Timothy, son of Edward Paramore, 15th October, 1577.
Angelica, daughter of John Paramore, 23rd August, 1579.
Richard, son of Edward Paramore, 12th January, 1579-80.
Margaret, daughter of John Paramore, February 1580-81.
Jane, daughter of Henry Paramore, April, 1581.
Edward, son of Edward Paramore, 6th January, 1582-3.
Margaret, daughter of Edward Paramore, 8th August, 1585.
Mary, daughter of Edward Paramore, 10th August, 1589.
John, son of Henry Paramor, 5th October, 1596.
Henry, son of Thomas Paramour, 27th August, 1597.
Edward, son of Henry Paramor, 3rd March, 1598-9.
Joshua, son of Thomas Paramour, 1st December, 1603.
Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Paramor, 5th April, 1607.
John, son of Henry Paramour, 11th August, 1622.
Edward, son of Henry Paramour, 21st August, 1625.
Henry, son of Henry Paramour, 16th March, 1627-8.

Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Paramour, 11th May, 1629.

John, son of Edward Paramour, 28th June, 1629.

Steven, son of Edward Paramour, 11th February, 1632-3.

Mary, daughter of Edward and Anne Paramor, 23rd December, 1634.

Anne, daughter of Edward and Anne Paramour, 21 February, 1640-1.

MARRIAGES.

John Proud and Alice Paramore, 18th October, 1561.

Edward Paramore and Jone Hole, 26th November, 1565.

John Paramore and Mary Hole, 13th October, 1578.

Thomas Paramore and Ann Huffam, 24th January, 1582-3.

John Wayman and Sarah Paramor, 16th October, 1598.

Richard Paramor and Eve Stonard, 20th April, 1607.

Nicholas Essex and Eve Paramor, *widow*, 7th April, 1608.

Henry Paramor and Elizabeth Bax, 25th June, 1621.*

* June 24th, 1646, a Thomas *Parimore* of Shoreditch, was married to Mary Adams of St. George's, Southwark, at St. Lawrence Pountneys, London. This solitary entry, which was accidentally met with by a friend, and kindly handed to us, might be of some importance to a pedigree of the family, and we therefore record it, although there is nothing to show a connexion with the Paramours of Ash.

George Gainsford and Mary Paramour, 25th June, 1676.

Henry Paramor of Minster in Thanet, and Sarah Haslett, 30th January, 1807.

William *Parmour* batchelor, and Martha Hills, 23rd October, 1830.

BURIALS.

Infant daughter of John Paramor, 4th May, } 1582.
Mary, wife of John Paramor, 6th May, }

Mary, daughter of Edward Paramor, 7th May, 1586.

Henry Paramor, householder, 17th April, 1600.

John, son of Henry Paramor, ——— 27th November, 1601.

Richard Paramour, householder, 1st November, 1607.

Henry, son of Edward Paramour, 5th May, 1609.

Thomas Paramour, householder, 1st February, 1609-10.

Mary, wife of Henry Paramour Esq., 26th February, 1617-18.

Henry, son of Henry Paramour, 21st June, 1628.

Stephen, son of Edward Paramour, 18th November, 1633.

Joshua Parramor, 25th February, 1634-5.

Ann, daughter of Edward Paramour, 23rd October, 1635.

A male infant of Edward and Ann Paramour, 10th February, 1637-8.

Elizabeth Paramor, ——— 30th August, 1638.

We will add to these extracts the following entries of admittances to Gray's Inn :—

1601. Thomas Paramore, son of Henry Paramore of the Isle of Thanet.

1617. Henry Paramore, late of Staple Inn, son and heir of Thomas Paramore of Fordigay (Fordwich ?), co. Kent, Esq.

1620. Thomas Paramore, second son of Richard Paramore of Shankton, co. *Leicester*, Esq.

1635. Thomas Paramore, son and heir app. of Thomas Paramore of the Isle of Thanet, Esq.

HOUGHAM.

This is another Kentish family of great antiquity, large possessions, and important connexions, which has been totally neglected by the genealogists. From the arms borne by the most ancient branch, it is supposed that the Houghams, who derive their name from a manor so called, near Dover, as we have already stated in our second chapter, were a branch of the family of Avranches or Everinge. We have therein mentioned five Roberts de Hougham, who, from the time of Richard I., succeeded each other in regular rotation to the eleventh of Edward III., when the manor of Hougham went to the family of Valoins by the marriage of one of the daughters and co-heirs of the fifth Robert to Waretius de Valoins. The father of this Robert, who died twenty-ninth Edward I., and left a widow named Alicia, is said to have

had a younger brother named Richard, from whom descended the Houghams of Ash. We have not been fortunate enough to find a trace of this Richard, but in the MS. we have so often quoted, marked R. 27, in the College of Arms, there are abstracts of several charters, unfortunately not dated, but apparently of the thirteenth century, in which we find a Radulphus de Hugham, who had a son Osbert married to a lady named Felicia, and that to this Osbert William de Lenham, by consent of his wife Cecilia, granted all the lands he had in marriage with her and of her inheritance; this deed of gift being witnessed by Robert and Alexander de Hugham, Philip, Walter and Peter, sons of Beatrice de Hugham, and Ralph, the son of Matthew de Hugham. This, we presume, was in the time of Edward II., as in the fourteenth of that king's reign we have a charter of Beatrice de Hougham, at that period the widow of Baldwin de Hougham, whom we therefore take to be the father of her children, Philip, Walter, and Peter; and the same document informs us that she was the daughter of Robert de Chillenden. In another charter we find Thomas, son of Henry de Hougham; but no Richard in any. Nevertheless, a Richard de Hugham was Prior of Dover, A.D. 1350, and a scrap of a pedigree is headed with "Simon de Hougham filius Richardi," followed by "Robertus de Hougham filius Simonis," with the information, "Obiit in Ash." His son Robert is described as of Elmstone, and father of William de Hougham, to whom a wife is given named

Elizabeth, their son being Solomon de Hougham,* "whose figure," we are told, "stood in Ash church windows;" no doubt that of the kneeling warrior described at page 189, on whose tabard are arms differing only in colour from the other arms of Hougham, said to have been assumed from the family of Sanders of Norborne.† If there be any foundation for this assertion, it is very probable, from the special mention of Elizabeth as his mother, that she was an heiress of the family entitled to this coat. The descent from Solomon is a little clearer. He had two brothers, Thomas and Stephen (and perhaps a third, John Hougham, buried December 16, 1559), and a daughter not named, the wife of John Brooke ("son of John"), by whom she had a son also named

* A Solomon de Hougham died seized of Maplescombe, Co. Kent, 2nd of King Edward III. There were also two other Solomons, son and grandson of John Hougham of St. Martin's, Canterbury, by Joan his wife; as we find by the will of said John, dated May 4th, and proved July 2nd, 1482: his son Solomon being then dead, and his grandson apparently a minor. He bequeaths all his lands and tenements in Ash to Joan his wife, for life; remainder to Solomon, son of Solomon Hougham, his late son, deceased, when he shall arrive at the age of 30 years, in-tail, &c. He names Dionisia his daughter, late wife of John Bishop, *taillour*, and also *Jovina*, his daughter, late wife of John Bishop, of St. Paul's, *aforesaid!* Also his own sisters, Isabella and Margaret. The will of his widow Joan is dated May 8, 1503.

† In the Visitation of Kent, 1619, C. 16, Coll. Arms, these arms are *or*, on a chevron between three elephants' heads *gules*, three mullets *argent*. The drawing in le Neve's notes gives the field *argent*, and the charges *sable*, which may be an error of the copyist. The crest in the Visitation is that of Brooke of Brooke Street, the arms of Brooke being in the second and third quarters.

John, who died without issue, by his wife, Magdalen Stothard, 1582-3 (will proved February 7th). Of Thomas we know no more; but Stephen married Bennetta, daughter of John Brooke, the elder, and heir to her brother, it is said, on the death of her nephew. The property, however, could only have come to *her* heirs, as she herself died nearly two-and-twenty years before her nephew.

"Bennet Huffam" was buried June 9th, 1560, according to the registers at Ash, and by her will, proved October 14th following, as "Benedict Huffam of Ashe, widow," she desires to be buried near her husband (who was dead in March, 1556), and names Michael and Richard, her sons, Joan, Margaret, and Elizabeth, her daughter's children, and Bennett, the daughter of Michael Huffam. John Brooke, the nephew, did not die till January 16th, 1582-3, and by his will, proved February 7th following, wills certain lands, part of the manor of Nevil's Fleet, to John, son of Richard Huffam, his godson, and his heirs male. Bennett's brother, John Brooke, was living in 1555, as he is named in the will of Stephen Hougham, dated November 20th in that year. Stephen names therein also his "wife Benet," his brother Thomas Hougham, Michael Hougham his son, and Stephen Solly, his daughter Elizabeth, wife of Stephen Solly, son of Stephen Solly the elder, and her daughters, Margaret, Elizabeth, and Joan, whom we have seen mentioned in their grandmother's will. Michael, his eldest son, married Edith, daughter of Austin of Addisham, and

Richard, his other son, Joan Foad. Michael of Ash left three sons, Michael, Stephen, and Richard,* and three daughters: Anne, married to Thomas Paramore of Fordwich, Bennett, who married Thomas Country, and ————, married to Bateman.† He died in 1583. His brother Richard of Eastry had, by Joan his wife, five sons, Thomas, Vincent, John, George, and Stephen, and two daughters, Susan and Bennet, who both died unmarried.

Michael, eldest surviving son of Michael of Ash, married, first, Elizabeth Joade, October 11th, 1578, by whom he had three sons, Thomas, Henry, and Richard, and one daughter, Elizabeth; and secondly, Jane Brook, by whom he had a son named Brook, baptized January 25th, 1596.

Richard, second son of Michael of Ash, had Weddington, and married Elizabeth, daughter of Edward Sanders of Norborne, who survived him and married Thomas Hawkes. Richard died in 1606 (buried at

* Will proved December 10th, 1583.

† From a pedigree in one of Hasted's collections (Brit. Mus., Add. MSS., 5,520), we find that William, eldest son of Michael and Margaret Courthope, had by his wife, Susanna, daughter of John Clarke, fifteen children, eight sons and seven daughters; and that of the former, only one left issue. This was Francis Hougham, the "Citizen and Painter-Stainer," whose memorandum appears at page 102. He was twice married, and had issue by both wives. Gervase, whom in 1717 he names his heir, was his only child by his first wife, Mary, daughter and heir of Gervase Plumbe, Gent., and was born June 13th, 1708. Nathaniel, the only surviving son by his second wife, was living in 1722.

Ash October 8th), and left three sons: first, Michael, baptized June 6th, 1596, who married Margaret Courthope, from whom the Houghams we have enumerated in the last note, page 394; second, Edward, baptized May 25th, 1598, who, by Margaret his wife, left a daughter Anne, married to John Bettenham; and third, Solomon, baptized January 1st, 1599-1600, who, by his wife Mary, left three sons: first, Solomon, a merchant in London, and who, having purchased the manor of Langport, alias Barton, at Canterbury, resided there, and was Sheriff of Kent in 1696; second, Richard of Sandwich, dead in 1662, and Henry, who left issue three sons, Solomon, John, and Charles; the two first died without issue, and Charles became heir to his brother Solomon, who had inherited Langport from his uncle the Sheriff, in 1697. Charles had a son Henry, who married Sarah, daughter of William Hunt, and died 1726, leaving a son William, who married Margaret Hannah Roberta, daughter and one of the heirs of John Corbett, Esq., Co. Salop, by whom he had a son William, born in 1752, who married the daughter of Charles Robinson, Esq., Barrister at Law, Recorder of Canterbury, and brother of Matthew, first Lord Rokeby. For the collateral branches we must refer the reader to the information we have been able to gather from the registers of Ash, the parish in which we are alone interested. The name of Hougham is still extant there and in the neighbourhood, but it seems to have died out of the parish during the seventeenth

century.* Stephen, brother of Richard of Weddington, who married Joan, daughter of Thomas Beke, and was overseer of Ash in 1605, and whose daughter Bennet was the second wife of Henry Harfleet, and Thomas Huffam, churchwarden in 1609, being apparently the last of the name who held any position here.

The entries of the family of Hougham in the registers of Ash are as follow :—

BAPTISMS.

George Huffam, 6th March, 1558-9.
Elizabeth Huffame, 3rd September, 1560.
Stephen Huffame, 11th April, 1561.
(Page cut from July to January, 1561-2; and from 26th October to 16th April, 1563.)
Susan, daughter of Richard Hougham, 10th October, 1563.
Anne, daughter of Michael Hougham, 28th January, 1564-5.
Vincent, son of Richard Huffam, 26th July, 1566.
Michael, son of Michael Huffam, 28th October, 1569.
Richard, son of Michael Huffam, 4th June, 1574.
Stephen, son of Michael Huffam, 22nd June, 1577.
Thomas, son of Michael Huffam, 17th July, 1579.
Magdalen, daughter of Vincent Huffam, 3rd October, 1591.

* No marriage of a Hougham is registered at Ash, between 1655 and 1763, but *one* baptism during the last century, and *no* burial between 1660 and 1824.

Brooke, son of Michael Huffam, 25th January, 1595-6.

Michael, son of Richard Huffam, 6th June, 1596.

Edward, son of Richard Huffam, 25th May, 1598.

Margaret, daughter of Stephen Huffam, 5th September, 1599.

Solomon, son of Richard Huffam, 1st January, 1599-1600.

John, son of Stephen Huffam, 5th October, 1600.

Judith, daughter of Stephen Huffam, 1st November, 1601.

Elizabeth, daughter of Stephen Huffam, 17th June, 1604.

Bennett, daughter of Stephen Huffam, 8th October, 1605.

Mildred, daughter of Thomas Huffam, 6th December, 1607.

Samuel, son of Thomas Huffam, 6th May, 1610.

Edward, son of Solomon Huffam, 17th November, 1626.

Anne, daughter of Solomon Huffam, 17th November, 1626.

John, son of George and Martha Huffam, 2nd February, 1607-8.

(No entries from 1641 to 1654.)

Martha, daughter of John and Martha Huffam, 8th May, 1654.

Sarah, daughter of Henry and Elizabeth Hougham, 5th April, 1750.

Susannah, daughter of Henry and Elizabeth Hougham, 14th July, 1751.

Henry, son of Henry and Elizabeth Hougham, 8th October, 1752.

Edward, son of Henry and Elizabeth Hougham, 12th March, 1754.

Alice, daughter of Henry and Elizabeth Hougham, 7th May, 1758.

Edward, son of Edward and Sarah Hougham, 10th November, 1765.

Sarah, daughter of Edward and Sarah Hougham, 1st March, 1767.

Harriet, daughter of John and Margaret Hougham, labourer, of Westmarsh, 9th October, 1814.

George, son of John and Margaret Hougham, 10th November, 1816.

Alice, daughter of John and Margaret Hougham.

Michael, son of John and Margaret Hougham, 1821.

MARRIAGES.

Richard Huffam and Jane Ford, November 27th, 1558.

Thomas Country and Bennett Huffam, July 16th, 1575.

Thomas Paramore and Anne Huffam, January 24th, 1582-3.

Vincent Huffam and Elizabeth Pynnocke, January 1st, 1590-1.

Thomas Browning and Margaret Huffam, October 28th, 1624.

Henry Harflete and Bennett Huffam, March 26th, 1629.

Edward Hougham, widower, and Sarah Chandler, December 7th, 1763.

Anna Hougham and John Capell, March 6th, 1774.

William Hougham, son of John Hougham, gardener, and Esther Carpenter, December 2nd, 1839.

Ann Hougham, daughter of John Hougham, labourer of Ash, and John Greggs, April 10th, 1841.

Alice Hougham, daughter of John Hougham, labourer of Ash, and John Wall, widower, November 22nd, 1845.

Harriet Hougham, daughter of John Hougham, farmer of Ash, and Thomas Upton of Eastry, November 11th, 1848.

BURIALS.

Bennet Huffam, June 9th, 1560.

Infant daughter of Michael Huffam, December 15th, 1580.

Michael Huffam, householder, July 12th, 1596.

John, son of Stephen Huffam, October 11th, 1600.

Mary, daughter of Stephen Huffam of Sandwich, June 21st, 1604.

Ideth (Edith) daughter of Stephen Huffam, Oct. 9, 1604.

Edward, son of Thomas Huffam, December 18th, 1619.

Joane, wife of Stephen Huffam, February 15th, 1632-3.

John, son of George Huffam, February 6th, 1637-8.

(No entries from 1641 to 1656.)

Stephen Hougham of Ash, aged 9, September, 1835.

Edward Hougham of New Street, aged 30, September 8th, 1854.

George Hougham of Cooper Street, Ash, aged 16, February 19th, 1857.

We add the following entries from other sources, as partially supplying the gap between the sixteenth and eighteenth centuries:—

Wingham Registers.

BAPTISM.

Elizabeth, daughter of Stephen and Elizabeth Huffam, December 8th, 1662.

BURIALS.*

Stephen Huffam, tailor, 1691.

Stephen Huffam, son of Richard and Anne, 1695.

Richard Huffam, tailor, 1697.

Elizabeth Huffam, widow, same year.

Tenterden Registers.

Thomas Hougham and Mary Jenkin, married December 28th, 1595.

Add. MSS. Brit. Mus. 5,507.

MARRIAGES.

Bennett, daughter of Stephen Hougham of Ash, gentleman, aged 22, and Henry Forstall, Mayor of Sandwich, $162\frac{8}{9}$.

* "Michael Hougham, ob^{t}. 1679, æt. 61." Anne Hougham, daughter of Edmund Joy, ob^{t}. 1677, æt. 55. Mon. In. Preston Church. In Tenterden churchyard is a tombstone to the memory of Henry Hougham, and Joan, his wife, by whom he had fourteen children. He died September 8th, 1818, aged 75; he was therefore born in 1743.

Stephen Hougham of Ash, gentleman, aged 21, *vivo patre*, and Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Lightfoot of Canterbury, deceased, aged 18, 1629.

Edward Huffam of Stourmouth, gentleman, widower, married Mary, daughter of Richard Laming of Preston, deceased, 1631.

Bennett, daughter of Thomas Huffam of Dover, gentleman, aged 18, married Thomas Dedes of Dover, maltster, aged 20.

Thomas Huffam of Ash, husbandman, aged 24, married Susan, relict of Stephen Browne of Ash, 1634.

Stephen Hougham and Elizabeth Selden, 1650.

Solomon Hougham of Norborne, gentleman, aged 20, and Sarah Beke (or Beale), gentlewoman, aged 21.

Susan Hougham and Andrew Honess, 1653.

Sibel Hougham and William Lucket, 1656.

Henry Hougham and Elizabeth Morris, 1681.

Alice Hougham and Anthony Rayner, 1682.

SOLLY.

This ancient family, of which so many descendants are resident in the parish at the present day, is presumed to have taken its name from the manor of Soles, in the neighbouring parish of Nonnington, in Wingham hundred, part of the possessions in 1080 of Odo, Bishop of Baieux. A John de Soles was in possession of it in the reign of Edward I., and his descendant, another John, died, seized of it in 1376. It was alienated in 1400 or 1401.

Without affirming or contradicting this statement, with which we have been favoured by the direct representative of the Pedding branch of the family, there is the fact that a John Solly is entered in the register of the Abbey of St. Augustine, as holding the manor of Linucre or Linacre Court of the Abbot, by Knight's service, in the 49th year of Edward III., 1377. We have been unable to connect this John Solly with any of the family of De Soles,* or to discover any intermediate male descendant between him and the Stephen Solly who married a daughter of Harfleet, and was settled at Pedding in 1509; but in the Ash registers we found the following entry amongst the burials during March, 1586:—"Sexborow Solly, wyd: buryed, being an hundred years owld, xxvjth." She was, therefore, born in 1486, would have been 23 in 1509, and possibly the wife of Stephen Solly above mentioned. The name, which appears singular enough in the corrupt orthography of the register, is correctly Sexburgha, being that of a celebrated Abbess of Minster, and appears to have been a favourite one in the sixteenth century. A "Sixborrowe Sollye" preceded her venerable namesake to the grave, being buried April 24th, 1573, and

1377

* Richard *Sawlew* is a witness to a grant of land from William Sanders, of the parish of Ash next Sandwich, son and heir of William Sanders of Minster, to John Bennett of Ash, aforesaid, dated September 17th, in the 19th year of the reign of Richard II. (A.D. 1398).—(Philipot MS., No. 23, Coll. Arm., p. 103.) The absence of the "*de*" before the name of the oldest Solly, identified as one of the family, is not to be overlooked.

another "Sixborrowe Sollye, widow," followed her January 6th, 1591-2.

Unfortunately, the earliest registers rarely afford us any information beyond the name and date of burial or baptism, and identification is therefore little assisted by them. No mention is made of whom the first of these Sexburghas was the widow, or the second, the daughter,* nor do we find the name anywhere in the Harfleet Pedigree. We must therefore confine ourselves to the observation of the facts, and leave the conclusions to be drawn by the reader. We find no entry of the burial of Stephen Solly, "the elder," as he is called in the will of Stephen Huffam, dated November 2nd, 1555, unless he was the "Stephen, son of William Sollye," buried March 4th, 1561-2. He had, however, a son Stephen, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Stephen Hougham aforesaid, and had a son John, who died at Pedding in 1624, leaving three sons, John, Stephen, and Richard. The latter was of Fleet in Ash, and married Elizabeth, daughter of Daniel Pryor of Ash. He died March 18th, 1652, and left four sons; the eldest, Richard, married Mary, daughter of John Proude, of

* The other widow, we presume, was the wife of a William Solly, as the first entry of a marriage is that of "William Sollye and Sexborowe . . . . . " (no maiden name mentioned !), November 24th, 1558; and a "William Sollye" was buried March 5th, 1570-71; and another "William Sollye, householder," January 2nd, 1591-2, only four days before "Sixborrowe." The latter was most probably her husband, but there is no deciding from any evidence we have hitherto inspected.

the Moat in Ash, and died at the Moat, October 22nd, 1683, aged 50. His eldest son John married twice, and by his second wife Anne, sister to Sir Henry Furnesse, had a son Richard, who married Anne, daughter of John Hollis, by whom he had five sons: first, John, who died unmarried, 1750; second, Isaac, who married Ann, daughter of Nathaniel Neale, and had twelve children; third, Richard, who died unmarried, 1743; fourth, Edward, who died unmarried, 1792; and fifth, Samuel, who married, 1776, Sarah, daughter of Dr. Horsman, and died 1805, leaving two sons, Richard Horsman Solly, who died 1858, and Samuel Reynolds Solly, of Manchester Square, London, F.R.S. and F.S.A., the present owner of the Moat.

Of the collateral descendants (whose name is legion) we can trace no other line with any confidence to the Sollys now living in the parish. Mr. George Solly of Richborough is probably the representative of one. (*Vide* page 139.) Some branches of the family had fallen into poverty early in the sixteenth century. We find "John Sollye, a poor householder," buried January 7th, 1594-5; "Matthew Sollye, a servant," buried May 18th, 1606; and "Priscilla Solly, servant to Mrs. Solly of Pedding," buried September 22nd, 1666; and the name, like those of Paramore and Hougham, is still found amongst the labouring classes and in the humbler ranks of the community. But "apprenticeship doth

not extinguish gentry," and the poorest and lowliest members of these ancient English families may have the barren satisfaction of writing the proud motto of "Fuimus" under the escutcheon they have inherited from ancestors who owned the broad acres they now till, in the times of the Plantagenets and the Tudors.

Apropos of escutcheon, the arms attributed to the Sollys of Sandwich by Mr. Hasted (vol. iii. p. 670, note) are *vert* a chevron per pale *or* and *gules*, between 3 soles naiant, *argent*. In vol. iv. p. 24, note, he confounds them with those of the family of Sole of Bobbing; *Argent*, a chevron *sable* between 3 soles haurient, *proper* within a bordure engrailed of the *second:* but the fact is, that no arms for the family of Solly of Kent are recorded in the Heralds' College; neither does any pedigree of Solly appear in the Visitations of that county. There was, however, a family of the name of *Solley* existing in Worcestershire as early as the reign of Henry IV., and their pedigree from Thomas Solley living in the thirteenth year of that reign (A.D. 1412) down to Humfrey Solley, in 1683, is to be found in the Visitations, C. 30 and K. 4, Coll. Arms. The coat accompanying it is a chevron between 3 fish (not soles) naiant; no colours marked, which would indicate absence of proof of their authenticity. There is, however, much more probability that these Solleys were collaterals of the Sollys of Kent than that the latter are descended from the De Soles.

Of the family of Solly the entries of baptisms at Ash alone amount to 292, of marriages to 104, and of burials to 176, exceeding those of any other in the register, except, perhaps, that of Lacy.

POSTSCRIPT.

WHILE awaiting the completion of the illustrations promised to our subscribers (the illness of the artist originally employed having delayed the publication of this volume considerably beyond the period we had contemplated), the works in progress at Ash and accidental circumstances have enabled us to add a few notes of some importance by way of postscript.

In the first place, there has been discovered under the flooring of the pews in the South Transept a piece of carved oak which evidently formed part of the family seat of the Septvans in Ash Church, as on one side of it appears a shield of arms, on which are the well-known fans or wheat-screens as represented on the brasses in the Molland Chancel, and on the other an elaborately carved letter S of very graceful design. (*Vide* Plate VII. fig. 7.)

Secondly, in one of the unindexed MSS. in Philipot's Collection, Coll. of Arms, we have lighted upon a pedigree of the family of St. Nicholas, illustrated by coats of arms, &c., and attached to it are some rude pen-and-ink drawings of figures formerly

in the windows of the churches at Ore and Ash. Two of these, stated to have been "in Ecclesia de Ash juxta Sandwicum," are kneeling figures of a man and woman, the former in armour, with a tabard displaying the arms of St. Nicholas; and the latter in kirtle and mantle, on which appear the arms of Campania. Underneath them is written "Orate pro animabus Johannis Seynnicholas et Margaretæ uxoris suæ. 8 filiorum et septem filiar." This is a curious piece of genealogical information, as we have only the knowledge from his will of four sons and two daughters, all under age, at the date of its execution in June, 1462. As he died the same year, he must have lost nine children in infancy previous to that period. As these figures do not occur amongst the drawings of Peter le Neve in 1610, we must conclude that the glass on which they were painted had been destroyed before his time. The particular window is not specified by Philipot; but it was probably that of the South Transept, wherein all the family lie buried. We give the figures, in addition to the four drawn in Peter le Neve's Church Notes, on Plate XIII. page 254.

Thirdly, on a more minute examination of the lid of the stone coffin recently dug up in the South Transept, our artist has discovered faint traces of the ornamental portion of the cross proper, and has indicated its probable original form by dotted lines on Plate VII. fig. 6, page 204.

Fourthly, we have found amongst the old grants

by J. Dalton, Norroy King of Arms, that on the 11th of May, 1560 (2nd of Queen Elizabeth), there was one of a crest to "Edward Singleton of Broughton Tower, in the Countie of Lancaster, Gentleman," which is blazoned as "an arme . . . . . armed at all pieces, the hand, charnell (*i. e.*, flesh-colour, or proper), holding a horseman's staff, gold, the hede sylver." We have no doubt, therefore, that the gravestone described by us at page 234 is that of Dr. Singleton of Molland, whose epitaph was preserved by Mr. Faussett in his Church Notes (*vide* page 236); but though the coat is described by him correctly, he does not mention the crest, and the only one appearing exactly to correspond with it which we could discover was that of Gimber, for the sculptor of the gravestone has embowed the arm the reverse way, which, according to the rules of Heraldry, makes altogether another crest of it, and would still cause us to hesitate had we not proof of the burial of Mr. Thomas Singleton in this chancel in 1710, coupled with the statement that he was "descended from the ancient family of the Singletons of Broughton Tower, in Lancashire." This fact "dissolves our mystery," as Mrs. Malaprop would say, for it was certainly difficult to comprehend how such a stone could have escaped the notice both of Mr. Faussett and Mr. Cozens.

We had indulged a faint hope that we should have been able, by the assistance of Mr. Ashpitel, to have thrown some new light upon the remarkable deflec-

The orientation of a mediæval church

tion of the High Chancel. We have mentioned at page 177, on the authority of Mr. Roberts, one theory propounded by Ecclesiologists; but there is another less fanciful which has also its supporters. The laying of the foundation of a church, or any particular portion of it, was generally preceded by a nocturnal service on the eve of the day of the saint to whom it was to be dedicated; and as previously to the invention of the mariner's compass the only mode of ascertaining the east was by observing the rising of the sun, this was done on the following morning by "the watchers of the matins," and the orientation of the building depended upon their report to the architects, who set out the new work accordingly. Granting this to be fact, it follows as a matter of course that when the body of the church was dedicated to one saint and the chancel to another, there would be a sensible deviation from the right line in the orientation of the two portions of the edifice. Now, the Church of Ash is dedicated to St. Nicholas, while the High Chancel is expressly described as that of Our Lady, and an opportunity was therefore afforded us to test the value of this theory. The result of our observations were, however, singularly contrary to our expectations,—the nave of the church being in a direct line towards the point at which the sun would rise on the 2nd of February, the day of the Purification (one of three great days appropriated to the Virgin), and the chancel diverging towards the point of sunrise on the 6th

of December, St. Nicholas' Day—the exact reverse of the proposition!

The question may arise, has there been any re-dedication? Was the old Norman church, originally dedicated to St. Nicholas, and the short nave then existing in a direct line with the chancel, or was there an earlier edifice raised in honour of the Virgin, and a new Church of St. Nicholas constructed nearly upon the same foundation in the 12th century? The nave has evidently been lengthened westward during the first half of the 13th century, and previously to the period when it was made a parish church and appropriated to the College of Wingham by Archbishop Peckham, whose family, from the exact similarity of their coat armour, is supposed to be identical with that of *St. Nicholas* of Ash and Thanet. I cannot do better than conclude this postscript by transcribing some general observations on the church, which have been kindly contributed by Mr. Ashpitel, in further illustration of the plan, Plate V., for which we are also indebted to him:—

"An examination was made of the south wall of the nave (see Plan A, B), where there are evidently the remains of two arches, leading either into a side chapel, or more probably what was once a south aisle.

"A cursory view shows they are supported by a column at C, but on cutting into the wall at *b*, it was clear there was a half-column attached to a pier,

or, as it is technically called, a respond, and not another column. It was then suggested that the original church might have only extended as far as the dotted lines *d*, *e*, and that it was probably (for the arches now built into the wall are pointed) the work of the Anglo-Norman period, *circa* 1160—1180, and consisted of a short nave (as shown by the dotted lines) and two aisles; and, as was usual at the time, there was also, in all likelihood, a small chancel, with an octagonal or circular apsis, under where the central tower now stands. If this were the case, the ragstone column at *f*, and the respond at *g*, may be original; and the upper abacus, like that at *e*, has been superimposed at the time of the erection of the new Early English arches, for this is of Caen stone, like that at *e*, while the rest of the columns, capital, and base are of rag.

"This view is further strengthened by the section of the capitals *e* and *f*, and still more so by those of the bases *e* and *f*, the latter of which is in all probability half a century later than the first.

"About fifty years after this date, in the palmy days of the Early English style, 1220 to 1240, the nave seems to have been lengthened westward, and the chancel built as we now see it. The transepts also must have been erected about that time; and, as previously stated, it would appear, from the extra thickness of the walls at the north-west end of the building (see letter F), there must have been a tower at that spot. This idea has been corroborated by

the finding the cill of a small oylet, or arrow-slit window, close under the present eaves, which could only have been made for the first floor, or ringing-loft, of a tower. That the Molland Chancel or St. Nicholas Chapel was then built, or shortly afterwards, is probable, as the remains of a foundation were discovered a short time ago, northward of the present wall, *h*, *i*. This part of the building, as it exists at present, was probably erected at the same time with the central towers."

THE END.

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